OUTLOOKS

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OUTLOOKS

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WHAT'S WHERE

Cover: Roll out the Rodeo!
Photography by Simon Burroughs.
Special thanks to Robin for his help with the photo shoot.

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Benefits of Bev

Lloyd Gobeil, otherwise known as Edmonton's "Crest" of honour, knows that a little drag and a lot of effort can go a long way.

page 6

He-Haw!

Growing up gay amongst the good ol' boys has given comic Paul J. Williams a unique outlook on life and humour.

Different Strokes

Brush up on your knowledge of this year's Pride Week activities with our handy fourth annual Wild Rose Pride Guide pullout.

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Corralling the Community

This year's ARGRA Rodeo, aside from offering a good time to all, marks a special milestone for the IGRA.

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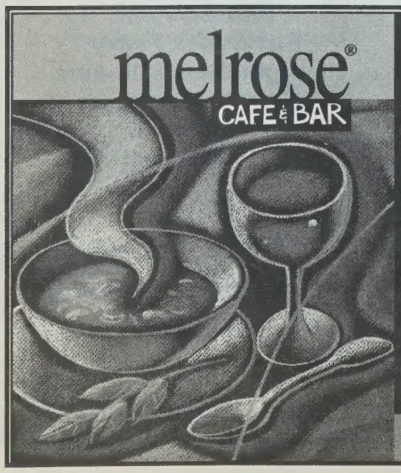

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LETTERS

CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Community and Police Working Together

18 May 2000

David Crosson
Editor, Outlooks Newspaper
200 - 2050 10th Ave. S.W.
Calgary, AB T3C 0J9

Dear Mr. Crosson,

I would like to take this opportunity to send my best wishes to you and your readers as you prepare to celebrate Gay Pride Month in Calgary. The fact that many people from all walks of life take part in this celebration each year in Calgary and across Canada is a sign that we, as a society, are taking positive steps toward acceptance and understanding.

Calgarians are fortunate to live in a city which celebrates diversity and all of the advantages this brings. Being part of a diverse society gives all of us the opportunity to broaden our point of view and to come to a greater understanding of the differences among us.

As Chief of the Calgary Police Service, I believe it is important that we continue to provide education and training to our members to ensure we police our communities with understanding and respect for all citizens. By working in partnership with community members, we can continue to meet the needs of all Calgarians and to serve the community fairly and responsibly.

Once again, I wish you and your readers all the best in the coming celebrations and I sincerely hope all citizens find peace and acceptance in this wonderful city.

Yours sincerely,

Christine E. Silverberg
CHIEF OF POLICE

133-6th Avenue SE, Calgary, AB
Canada T2G 4Z1 (403) 265.3330

PD 143 (R94-08)

Dear *Outlooks*,

Just looking through your wonderful paper this morning I noticed in the editorial section you have been getting a lot of flack on the "Bunnies" on the back page of your paper in Goliath's advertisement.

I think those who are complaining have an extremely dirty mind and are very critical of everything... Get a life guys... lighten up... look at the humour of it.

The first time I saw it I thought it was such a cute idea for an Easter advertisement. It wasn't until I looked again and started to pay attention to what was going on. It is a very tasteful ad and certainly not as explicit as some of the other ads you carry in the paper. As readers, if we don't like an ad, we shouldn't look at it. Ads like this are printed in lots of publications and newspapers, as you know. It is so cute, I think I will frame it and hang it in my computer room so I can enjoy it and have a chuckle.

The composer of the ad has a wonderful sense of humour and a subtle way of advertising what it's all about. (Maybe should have been *inside* the back page). People should realize advertisers and readers are the lifeblood of a paper like yours. It would be a sad day if your rules were too strict and you could not afford to go to print!

Well done, guys!

D. Rilling

We want your letters. Sign your name and include your address and phone number. All letters are subject to editing—and please, no more than 400 words. Write to: ***Outlooks*, Box 439, Suite 100, 1039 17th Ave. SW, Calgary AB T2T 0B2**
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PUBLISHER'S COLUMN

To the future through the past

by Roy Heale

Here it is June again—time to sip a cocktail on that favourite patio, lose a few pounds to look good in your summer sportswear, plant your garden and watch it grow in the coming months... Oh, and celebrate gay pride. Have you ever wondered why we celebrate with Pride Week each year and what the reasons are behind all those special events and great parties that bring us together? Obviously any reason for us to be out and about is important but the past history of gay pride is worthy of a few moments of reflection. At this significant turning point in history, it's important to ask where the gay liberation movement came from and wonder where it's going?

Perhaps the most important catalyst in the gay equality movement were the Stonewall Riots that began in Pioneer Square, the hub of New York's Greenwich Village, on Friday, June 27th, 1969. At this time it was a habit for New York's boys in blue to regularly make surprise raids on the Stonewall Inn and place the drag show performers into a paddy wagon for an overnight stay behind bars. Most of the customers slipped quietly and fearfully into the dark of night. On this one particular night an organized revolt took place and with placards bearing the words "Gay is Proud", patrons and performers resisted arrest. About three days of riots ensued and the rest, as they say, is history. Today it is becoming recognized that the gay and lesbian community is a highly visible minority and a valuable asset to society. So how did this come about?

Back in the roaring '20s, the closeted gay community was known as The World of the Twilight and gay was a term used to describe anyone who partied at nighttime. The homosexual community was considered to be artists and stereotyped as creative people who didn't fit with the macho image of the times. However, the first gay communities were developing in San Francisco's Barbary Coast, New York's Greenwich Village and New Orleans' Latin Quarter. At the time of prohibition, home parties were the main gay social gatherings where friends could gather, safe in the knowledge they were not alone with their feelings for a same-sex partner. At these parties the bathtub would be filled with bootlegged gin, enough ice to kill the taste and grenadine to make the drink attractive. Everyone drank pink gin until they were horizontal—though hopefully not alone anymore! Pink became a signature hue, one that has lasted the test of time. Also out of this era emerged important thinkers from the homosexual underground, names like Tennessee Williams, Gertrude Stein, Langston Hughes and Margaret Anderson. They all began to use the written word to openly discuss gay issues.

In the mid '30s, the Hollywood motion picture code banned all references to homosexuality and talented Mr. Ripleys were not tolerated. At the same time, Broadway censored any plays with overtly gay themes or characters. Homosexuality was a dirty word and the gay community was forced to stay in the closet, supposedly where it belonged. In 1939 a fateful turn of events changed the course of history.

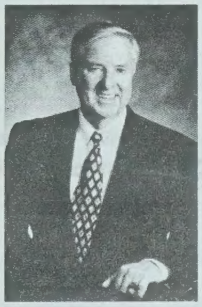
World War II threw men together with men and women together with women. The camaraderie that came along with fighting a common enemy also gave rise to displays of emotions and feelings not usually shared in same-sex friendships. Slowly, gays began to realize these strange feelings were not theirs exclusively and coming out became a more natural process. The quiet revolution was under way. The liberation from the battle with the enemy in 1945 led to a more liberal attitude generally and civil liberties began to surface as a new priority in the '50s. Gay members of the armed forces didn't necessarily go home; rather, they gravitated towards major urban centres where they could lead their lives in anonymity. This resulted in the beginnings of gay bars and clubs in major cities. The much-disputed *Kinsey Report* showed homosexuality in a new light, indicating that the size of the gay community was a major percentage of the population not to be ignored.

Nonetheless, in the mid '50s an openly gay person could still be committed to a mental institution by a family member without any say in the matter. (Thank goodness I was barely out of diapers or my life might have been insanely different!) The closet was still the safest place to be. During this time, gay activists were working behind the scenes to form societies and publish newsletters, while grassroots communication and activism developed in secrecy. The gay community began to feel safety in numbers and pioneers challenged the system with court cases scoring minor victories. Judy Garland became a gay icon and her song, Somewhere Over The Rainbow, emerged as a secret anthem.

By the '60s, Greenwich Village and San Francisco had become gay meccas and gay tourists from around the world flocked to experience a sense of freedom, if only for a short vacation. Politicians began to realize there was a gay voting block and that caution or balance was necessary on gay issues. God Save The Fairy Queen became a variation on the British national anthem and was used as a theme song at rallies. For the first time the idea was put forth that gay people were not mentally ill, they simply had a character disorder! The flower children of the hippie generation inspired the feeling that it was OK to be different. The fashion revolution of the '60s was an inspiration, which lasted, for demonstrating your individualism to everyone.

Everything came together the night of the Stonewall Riots and fighting back was the mood of the gay community. This final raid on a New York gay bar was resisted for the first time and Gay Power was the new buzzword. "I'm Gay And I'm Proud" was the new slogan. Gay Pride was born.

Sometimes we feel as though gay and lesbian rights are achieved too slowly and become frustrated. But, if we look back at the past century, the new millennium holds a bright future for us all. So make this your month to feel proud. Participate in the many celebrations planned which provide you the opportunity to be out and proud. From everyone at *Outlooks*, we wish you a happy Pride Week. Get out and celebrate—and, above all, be thankful you're not in a mental institution or jail just because you're gay!



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

In Edmonton, there's never a lack of exciting ways to get involved. That's one of the many reasons why our city stands out as a great place to live.

Congratulations to all involved in producing these publications. It's a significant task, but it's always satisfying when you achieve your goals.

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, I extend best wishes to everyone involved in producing Outlooks and Pride Guide.

Yours truly,

Bill Smith
Mayor

THE CITY OF Edmonton

Paul J. Williams: the 'J' stands for jokes

by David Crosson

In his own words he's "a Jerry Springer show just waiting to happen." The grandson of a professional clown, Paul J. Williams was born in the rough and tumble state of Texas and raised Southern Baptist. After deciding that his marketing degree from Baylor University wasn't taking him where he wanted to go, Williams branched out into comedy, to offer his especially humourous take on the human condition to the rest of the world (with a background like his, it was only a matter of time...).

In an exclusive interview, *Outlooks* caught up with Williams in anticipation of the first annual Tickled Pink comedy night, Friday June 16 at Martha Cohen Theatre, where he will share the stage with (now) fellow New Yorker Michele Balan.

Outlooks: Growing up in Texas, you were, by your own admission, a bit of an outsider—was humour something you used to negotiate your way out of bullying situations?

Williams: It didn't start out that way. I was really good friends with a guy who I'm still friends with today—even though he's a good ol' straight boy—and in high school we were kind of like Hawkeye and Pierce, you know, from MASH? He's the one that taught me that. I was always a wimp, somewhat of a fag, and not someone who would ever fight physically, and he taught me early on not to let people bully me. Come back with something. So I learned to use the tongue, if you will, as my weapon. And I think most burgeoning gay kids do—at least gay male kids—it becomes our "witty repartee" [Laughs]. I was really pretty much introverted until sometime in high school when I really kind of 'blossomed'.

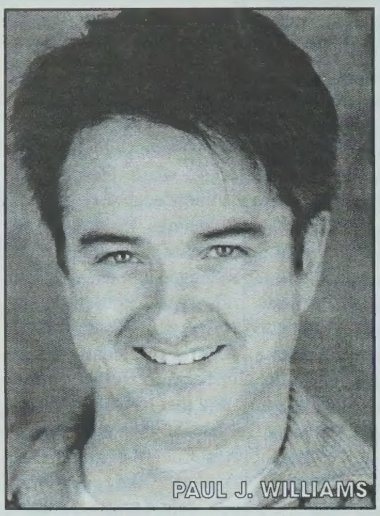
Outlooks: What a wonderful bit of career training early on in your life.

Williams: Hello! When I finally made the decision to do this, my family and friends were all like "Oh, thank God, you're going to get paid for being yourself!"

Outlooks: Has your move to New York provided you with an even greater resource for material?

Williams: You'd think... but in reality the new stuff I've been writing has nothing to do with the fact that I live in New York. I guess I kind of take this for granted, I think, either a: what's funny about it? or b: whatever is funny about it has already been said by other comics and now it's stale material. I do a couple of things about funny experiences I've had there, but those are few and far between.

Outlooks: How often do you go home to Texas? Is that a way to keep in touch and source new material?


PAUL J. WILLIAMS

Williams: I talk to my parents almost every day, which is kind of odd, I realize. I don't get home that much but my family is very close and we speak often. And when I do get back to Texas I go back to Dallas, which is where I lived before I moved here. I lived there longer than I lived in San Antonio where I grew up, so I kind of feel like Dallas is really 'home'. I get back about once every three or four months.

Outlooks: You're pretty much a gay-boy from the word "go" in your act; was that a conscious decision or was your sense of humour so rooted in 'gay' that there was no point in trying to hide the fact?

Williams: Oh no—that was a conscious decision. I got started being a comic by one of the most well-known lesbian comics there are, and that was Suzanne Westenhoefer. I was part of a three-man comedy troupe called Less Miserable that was together from '88 to '94. We were performing in Provincetown in the summer of '93 and we were sharing a house with Suzanne. And it was Suzanne who pulled me aside one afternoon and said "It's so obvious that you are the strong point of this group, you need to go out on your own." This was when gay comedy was really starting to get big and I thought: I will have no part of that—I have to be onstage with two other people, I'm too scared to do it by myself. And I said "What the heck do I have to say?" and Suzanne looked at me and said "Please! You're gay, you're from Texas and you're *bad*—now start writing!"

Outlooks: Good career advice from someone with a good career.

Williams: So it was a very conscious decision to be gay—openly gay. Now the question from here is how gay am I? And that has to do with who I'm performing for. I do have an appeal to straight audiences, as I've proven here in New York, and I will tone back a lot of the gay stuff, not out of a sense of embarrassment at all but a sense of "They're not going to get it." And if they're not being entertained then why am I on stage? I have yet to do a set anywhere where it did not come up at some point that I'm gay. I just don't think that's possible for me to do: it's not being true; it's not being real.

Outlooks: I spoke to Michele Balan last month and she said the same thing: comedy's about truth.

Williams: From the business standpoint of it you think: if there's someone from Letterman in the audience tonight I better be just as straight as I can be. But then I realize: you know what—f*** that. I may never be on Leno or Letterman or whatever because the powers that be have a hang-up about me appealing to people in Topeka, Kansas. But, you know what? That's fine with me; there are always going to be gay and lesbian venues that need a comic that's not going to be making jokes at their expense. And it may be limiting me but I'm just not going to play the game.

Outlooks: Well, being true to yourself and being comfortable with what is truly your material, doesn't that give you greater strength as a performer?

Williams: Well, yeah, I guess it does. There are times when I'd like to get up and have something to say that is funny and universal. Not gay or straight, just universal. I have not found that voice yet. I admire gay and lesbian comics who have found that voice and I'm starting to learn it, but too much of what I find humourous affects me or how I live or how my friends live as gay or lesbian people.

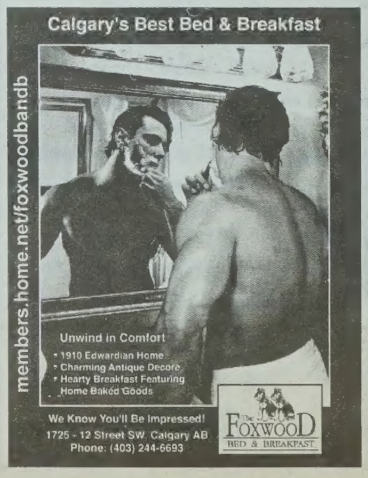
Outlooks: You do a bit of audience participation in your act; does that unpredictability give you a real thrill when you're onstage?

Williams: Oh, yeah! If you look at most comics in comedy clubs—not on television, in comedy clubs—most of their act is based on what people in the audience say. As Paul J. Williams I have never felt comfortable doing that. But as a character, let it rip! I don't know why the wall is there but I've been experimenting a bit more with what I do in my own part of the set. And when I'm doing Nelda... you just try and stop me!

Outlooks: You were raised Southern Baptist, are they really as scary as we think they are?

Williams: There are elements. [Pauses.] It's one of the things my father and I have discussed and I promised him that I would always try to temper my jokes about the Southern Baptists with a comment or a statement that there are good Southern Baptist people out there. My parents are a prime example of that: they're like a walking PFLAG chapter but they're still very involved and they believe what they believe. There is an element within the Southern Baptist church, much as there is an element in the gay and lesbian community, that is radical.

continued on page 7



continued from page 6

And those that are radical are just crazy—my brother being one of them. You just agree not to bring certain things up, because there is no reasoning. The Bible said it, I believe it, that's it—there is no question of interpreting. So, yes, unfortunately, there are those individuals but I do want to make people understand that I don't want all Southern Baptists painted as idiots just as I don't want all gay and lesbian people to be painted as perverts.

Outlooks: Mind if I do a little word association?

Williams: Oh, no, I love these!

Outlooks: Fred Phelps.

Williams: Idiot.

Outlooks: Pride.

Williams: Colours.

Outlooks: Breakfast.

Williams: Skipped.

Outlooks: Funny.

Williams: Humourous.

Outlooks: Success.

Williams: Money.

Outlooks: Clinton.

Williams: Oooh.

Outlooks: Did you say oooh or eeew? Is 'eeew' your answer?

Williams: [Laughs.] No! Um... respect.

Outlooks: Love.

Williams: Wish.

Outlooks: Pornography.

Williams: Disinterest.

Outlooks: Paul J. Williams.

Williams: Hilarious.

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OPINION

Sticks and stones...?

by Darrin Hagen

Words are important. They pinpoint and clarify our lives, our loves, the way we move through the world.

It also must be said that words can kill.

For all their power, words get tossed around pretty freely, especially in the media, where billions of words are churned out on a daily basis. And every day, some of those words are about us.

By now, we're probably almost immune to the occasional off-the-cuff political gaff, when some stuffed shirt stands and condemns "fags" and "dykes" for undermining the family/recruiting the young/not living out God's will (choose any or all of the aforementioned charges). It's easy to ignore, scoff, turn the page/channel/dial and continue with our day as if our very existence hadn't been completely misrepresented by someone who knows as little about our real lives as I do about monster truck rallies.

In this century, it's easy to say "we've come a long way" because, in truth, we have. The way our community is represented in today's media is a far cry from the dark ages of the pre-Stonewall era. The battle to have our lives represented fairly has been a cornerstone of our battle for equal rights. One quick glance at the archives of, say, *The New York Daily News* in the days following the Stonewall riots, and the scope of our progress becomes very apparent. Headlines like "Homo Nest Raided, Queen Bees Are Stinging Mad" were the norm back then. The article in question also contained such illuminating descriptions as "princesses and ladies-in-waiting", "Florence Nightingales', and "honeys turned Madwomen of Chaillot" while describing the birth of the gay rights movement. Even the liberal *Village Voice* stooped to the lowest common denominator with its front-page article, utilizing the journalistic term "forces of faggotry" in reference to the activists embroiled in the war to be recognized equally.

Times have changed. Words like that are no longer allowed in the North American press. Or are they?

As I write this, *The National Post* carries a story on the Anita Bryant of the new millennium: Dr. Laura.

By now we have all heard the venom that Dr. Laura has spouted on her syndicated call-in "advice" show. Her views about our community have been well-documented: gays and lesbians are "biological errors", "sexual deviants" and, of course, there is the gem "pedophilia is more common among members of the gay community than the heterosexual community". Naturally, gay equality groups criticized

her and, just as naturally, Dr. Laura cowered defiantly behind a smokescreen of "religious freedom", citing that, as a devout Jew, she has the right to say what she believes.

Then Paramount offered the Queen of Mean her own television show—and the uproar began.

Protests are now becoming common outside Paramount, as well as radio stations that carry the Dr. Laura show. This was addressed as Larry King interviewed Dr. Laura recently. When King asked if the stations were supporting her despite the protests, she replied:

"Well, of course. I mean, I think for the most part people understand the notion of free speech when they say it, when somebody has strong, profound religious beliefs, that is a conviction which needs to be respected instead of misconstrued or misrepresented as hate speech. I mean, that's awful."

Later, King asked if she chose her sexuality. Dr. Laura replied, "I don't think I ever thought about it... It came quite naturally to me to find a male person attractive."

King: "But do you think the same thing is with gays? They didn't choose it, did they?"

Dr. Laura: "You know, I'm not the expert in that. I can recommend some people to come in here and clarify all these things."

Later, King asked, "...you did call them deviants, right?"

Dr. Laura: "Never. I have never called anyone a name."

King: "That was a misquote?"

Dr. Laura: "You know, the problem I have... is that people who have an emotionally packed point of view and an agenda unfortunately often misrepresent, misconstrue and, frankly, downright fib what somebody with a different position has to say. And I'm afraid I got caught in the crossfires of that."

That, ladies and gentlemen, is what's known in political-speak as the "non-answer." Note the dexterity with which she side-stepped the real issue and, in doing so, still managed to call the people quoting her own words "liars."

In fact, Dr. Laura did call gays and lesbians "a biological error", "deviants", and a host of other nasty judgements. The comments were posted on her own website until the s*** hit the fan, then they were discreetly removed.

And, if she never said these things, what was the "apology" for? Dr. Laura released a statement apologizing for any hurt her comments may have caused. It was recanted shortly after it was released, but it begs clarification. Was Dr. Laura apologizing for those words she didn't say?

Words change history. Words cause wars. Words can condemn or sanctify. Words can wound, save, banish or embrace.

Here's another thing about words that Dr. Laura doesn't seem to realize: they stick around. In the age of the Internet, they don't just stick around, they get *passed* around. By the time Dr. Laura edited her own comments from her own website, the text had already been printed on a rival website known as www.stopdrlaura.com. Protest all you want, Doctor dear—those words aren't

continued on page 9

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continued from page 8

going to go away.

Interesting words also come from the pen of *The National Post*'s Mark Steyn. Steyn is notable for his in-your-face, take-no-prisoners approach to journalism. He more often than not sits on the far right on most issues. But he often strays from his topic to bash his favorite liberals: feminists and gays. Oddly enough, Steyn rarely comments on the specifics of lesbian love, but male-to-male sex practices get the full glare of his squinted, narrow view.

Take Steyn's article on gun control, for example. When questioning statistics about gun-related child mortality, Steyn writes "If you're old enough to die for Queen and country—or, to put it in more fashionable terms, if you're old enough to swing by the bath-house and be randomly sodomized—you shouldn't really be included in the infant statistics." Hmm...

What relation there is between gun-control statistics and sodomy is never clarified. But Steyn often tosses an insult our way, whether to amuse himself, or enrage the lefties. His references to the gay community are all marked by a notable fixation with what we insert and where we insert it and what we're wearing to Gay Pride. Journalistic phraseology like "condom-strewn park" and "pert-buttocked houseboy" are the norm. For Steyn, our entire existence can be summed up in one word: buggery.

In a column entitled "Hollywood's New Blacklist", Steyn defended Dr. Laura, contending that standard Judeo-Christian morality is now 'hate speech'. Steyn uses words as if they were sledgehammers, aiming them where they inflict the most visible and obvious damage. Rather than cloak his words behind a Ph.D or religious beliefs, Steyn just slaps readers across the face with them. In defense of Dr. Laura's right to moralize, he writes that thirty years ago, when Canadians were asked to "live and let live", they assumed it meant "that if a couple of fellows in the apartment upstairs wanted to sodomize the hell out of each other every night of the week, we should ignore the wobbling chandelier, turn up the Lawrence Welk and be 'tolerant'."

Then Steyn forwards the claim that religious persecution is all around us, and those darn gay rights activists are trampling on Judeo-Christian rights. He cites examples: New Zealand banning the import of an American Christian video about the 'homosexual agenda'; the Toronto printer who refused to print gay activist materials and was fined and ordered to do the work by the Human Rights Commission, despite his religious beliefs. He points to 'gayness' being an entire philosophy and moral code which is infusing every aspect of society and culture. Not bad for a group of guys who, (in his words), "for most of the last two millennia, had no ambitions beyond whacking its [sic] penis up another guy's butt."

For Mr. Steyn's information, we have a lot more on our minds than "sodomizing the hell" out of one another. Our ambition is *not* to be sodomized repeatedly, but to be included as valuable members of society. And his claim that 'gayness' has suddenly infiltrated mainstream society, thanks to advances in human rights, is ludicrous. If Mr. Steyn would pull his head out of the sand for a moment and look around, he would see that 'gayness' has always been a part of the society at large. We just never felt safe enough to take credit for our contributions to society.

For Dr. Laura and Mr. Steyn to constantly reduce us to a sex act diminishes our contributions to the world. Just as a woman resists being defined as a specific genital, or non-Caucasians resist being defined by mere pigment difference, we resist being defined by what we do with our partners. The words they use are purposefully hateful and simplistic and hiding behind the Bible doesn't change that. As far as I'm concerned, deflecting the argument with claims of "free speech" doesn't change that, either.

On March 11, the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council ruled that Dr. Laura was in violation of the human rights provision of the voluntary *Code of Ethics* of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, due to her consistent characterization of our sex behaviour as "abnormal", "aberrant", "deviant", "disordered", "dysfunctional" and "a biological error".

According to the council, her on-air terminology was "clearly pejorative," and was "of a critical and discriminatory (although not abusively discriminatory) nature." The CBSC went on to say that the effects of her views "from her powerfully influential platform behind a very popular microphone... may well fertilize the ground for other less well-balanced elements... to take such aggressive steps."

In other words, *her* words, the ones she says she didn't say, could trigger violence against homosexuals.

After noting that Dr. Laura's views were over twenty years out of date, the council concluded that "with the power emanating from that microphone goes the responsibility for the consequences of the utterances."

Words matter. Words affect people. Words can cause damage.

Words can kill. We know that from personal experience.

You know, there are some really good words for people like Mark Steyn and Dr. Laura.

But I'm too polite to use them here.

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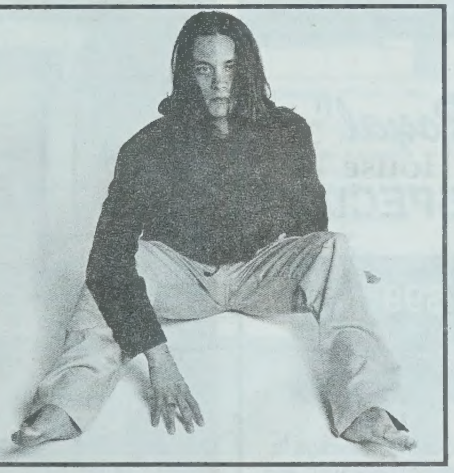
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Colour me rainbow and sell me some crap

by Cindy Filipenko

It's obviously time to get rid of the obligatory sliding scale for entrance fees to community events. The homos in my neighbourhood are doing fairly well. And while people haven't exactly been seductively flashing copies of their tax returns at better coffee spots along The Drive, there are signs.

The most obvious of these signs is the index card-sized rainbow flag decal that is appearing more and more frequently on the back bumpers of SUVs and in the corners of windows of spanking new condominiums. Yippee! Now not only do we have gay people, we have gay cars and gay houses! This is all thanks to the careful placement of a little rainbow-coloured decal, the unnatural evolution of the symbol created in 1978 by San Francisco's gay Betsy Ross-wannabe, Gilbert Baker.

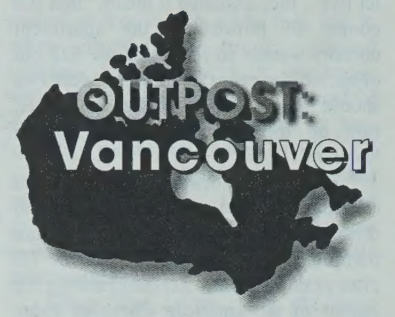
His initial design called for a flag that incorporated the traditional seven colours found in nature's spectrum, and an eighth especially just for us: hot pink! According to Baker, these colours represented, respectively: sexuality, life, healing, sun, nature, art, harmony and spirit. Unfortunately, Baker had actually hand-dyed all the colours for his prototype flags, and since the colour "hot pink" was not commercially available, mass production of his eight-striped version became impossible. The flag was thus reduced to seven stripes. In its present form, the flag is usually represented by a mere six colours. However, remember that less colour doesn't mean less pride! In fact, it is this simplified version of the flag that most of us are familiar with, having seen the symbol applied to every possible kitsch item imaginable.

That lone man with a single sewing machine humming away in the Castro could not have imagined what a monster he would be unleashing into the world of niche marketing. A scant 2.2 decades later and that all-unifying homo symbol is available on everything from coffee cups and doormats to bottles of lubricant and micro-brewery products.

As my father used to say, "Wrap s*** in red cellophane and you'll find someone willing to buy it." Or in this case, "Stick a rainbow flag on it and some homo will whip out his or her Visa."

What I've always found fascinating about the whole rainbow phenomenon is that, before queers co-opted this symbol, it was generally used on products aimed at microprincesses: girls generally under the age of ten who also had a fascination with unicorns. (Even more bizarre, these unicorns often had wings—copping a bit of the Pegasus myth. But I digress...) Winged single-horned horses and rainbows were a popular bedroom motif for little girls being brought up in the '70s and '80s.

So what do queers and little girls have in common? Well, both groups have been shamelessly reduced to being acknowledged primarily as a marketing demographic. The Spice Girls phenomenon gave birth to a group called



"tweens"—they weren't children and they weren't teens, they were something, well... *in between*. And they had a whack of disposable cash (more importantly, they had access to their *parents'* disposable cash).

Clever marketing hacks saw an opportunity to create fads designed to be short-lived and all-encompassing. And before you could say 'synergy', it was no longer enough to have a hit album, there had to be a doll, a video game, a movie, a potential TV series, back-to-school accessories, stickers and—you get the idea.

Now, obviously most adult gays and lesbians have jobs and a bit more self-control than your average eight- to twelve-year-old girl. Still, we continue to buy useless crap because it is directly marketed to us; it validates our existence and makes us feel like we belong to a greater community.

But the question remains: does the world need more products with the rainbow motif? Of course not. Is it a particularly attractive motif? Well, you'll have to find the answer to that question deep within your own soul. However, here is an experiment that you can try at home. Buy a throw cushion made out of rainbow fabric and place it

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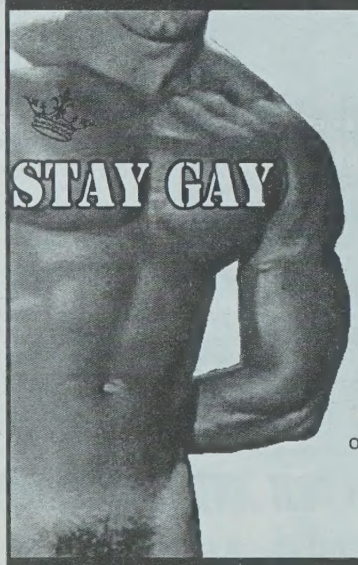

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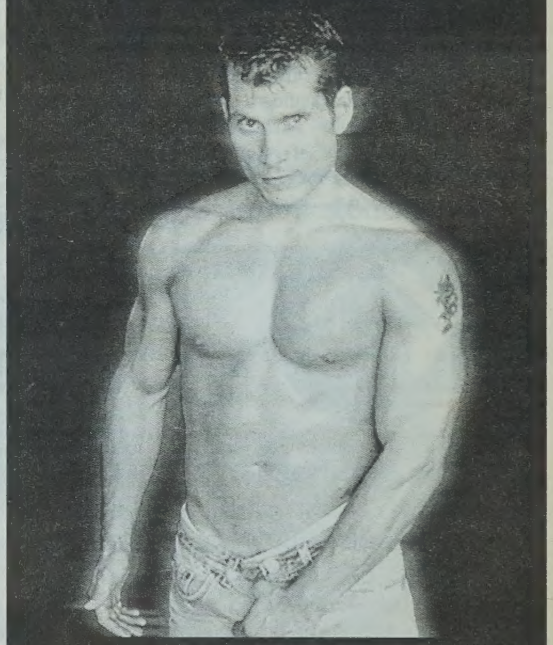

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on your chesterfield. Find a stop watch. See how long you can stare at the cushion before feeling nauseous.

Of course, my hatred of stupid queer marketing extends beyond rainbow paraphanalia, it also encompasses all manner of pink triangle gear, shirts that declare: "I'm not a lesbian, but my girlfriend is" or "I can't even think straight!" The thing is, I don't mind being considered a marketing niche group, but I want the vendors to bring something of *value* to that marketplace.

And I'm afraid that a display classified in the local gay mag advertising another set of freedom rings—even if they have "genuine, semi-precious stone inlays"—just won't cut it.

Affirming our identity by incorporating these symbols into our attire and our lives was important. It was also very '90s. Yes, we're here, we're queer, but maybe now we can move on.

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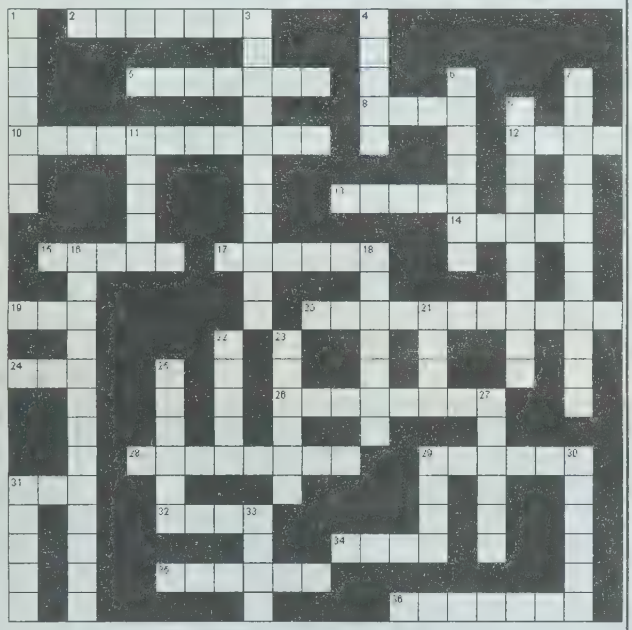
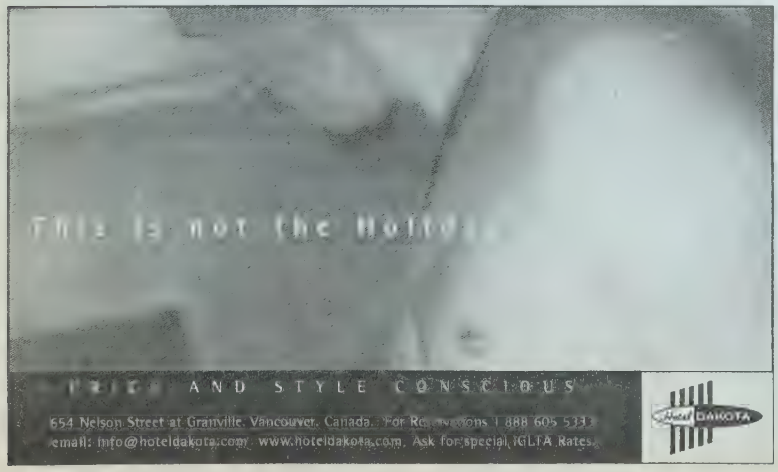
QUEERWORD

clues & words by Outlooks staff
answers on Page 37



ACROSS
2. The only US state where gays can "marry"
5. The play *What's Wrong With Angry?* became this film
8. French for pink or Alberta's "wildest" flower
10. Author of this month's reviewed book
12. New release novel ___ *Are Nice*
13. Author of *The Celluloid Closet*: Vito ___
14. This national columnist is caustic on gay issues
15. One of these will produce more rainbows that a Pride parade
17. *The New Yorker*'s Dorothy or *Spider-Man*'s Peter
19. *Queer As Folk* network
20. Major US river or musical Steamboat
24. Toronto actor Gilbert or "Chelsea Boys" hunk
26. Gay male comic making his Calgary debut: Paul J. ___
28. The tastiest of the deadly sins
29. Almost-blank surface on Pride Guide cover
31. Vessel for paint or slang for 'bathroom'
32. British slang for masturbation
34. In prison you don't want to drop this—or maybe you do!
35. Common to tennis, law or drag queens
36. Hills or Miss Crest

DOWN
1. The "name" used to remember colours of the rainbow
3. *La Cage Aux Folles* resulted in this US version
4. Film festival's signature sprite
6. Crane brothers favourite java haunt: Café ___
7. Paper in which 14 Across writes
9. Another word for parade
11. Comic Paul hailed from this state
16. These Singers held a concert May 6
18. *Dawson's Creek* meets *Close Encounters*
21. Larger group to which ARGRA belongs
22. This is a comforter and also a comfort
23. He's not so much a coverboy as he is a ___
25. Type of tree or new *Buffy* lesbo
27. Bill C-23 is currently before this group
29. "Colour me rainbow and sell me some ___"
30. The Police Liaison Committee is releasing one of these
31. Martha, Leonard, or Ethan
33. He plays queer on the *Creek*: ___ Smith



Small Change... with a few changes

by Outlooks staff

Dogs may be stubborn, but apparently it *is* possible to teach old pigs new tricks. Participants in this year's Small Change... Big Changes benefit will notice some changes indeed—adjustments that organizers hope will bring new vigor to the seven-year-old fundraiser.

"You need to keep your audience in mind and offer them something different every so often—shake up the elements to keep it fresh for people," says Small Change... Big Changes co-chair Peter Grobauer. "That said, I must also emphasize that we're still trying to stay true to the original concept, one that our audience is quite familiar with."

In looking at the present and future of the event, we must also look at its past so, first, a bit of history.

Small Change... Big Changes was established by the late Lorne McRae as an effective, all-access fundraiser, the proceeds of which went to support the battle against HIV/AIDS. The tradition of the event is now carried on by McRae's wife and son, as well as a host of dedicated volunteers.

SMALL CHANGE... BIG CHANGES CO-CHAIRS DAVID CHARE (LEFT) AND PETER GROBAUER

The concept was simple: guests at a kick-off reception purchased ceramic piggy banks that were then filled with spare change over the span of three months. At the end of that period, the pigs were used as admission to a gala wrap party, where they were emptied of their contents and returned to their owners. The pigs, one of the largest expense components of SCBC, have varied in colour from year to year and become collector's items of sorts.

Now some of that is about to change—and stockpiled pigs are going to come in handy for this year's attendees.

"One of the largest changes this year is that we're not creating new pigs; rather, this year is a piggie round-up," Grobauer says. "We're encouraging people to bring some of their pigs from a previous year's campaign and register it for this year."

Grobauer is quick to point out that "previous pigs" will also be on hand for sale at this year's launch, to accommodate newcomers or provide a coin receptacle for those who have not kept their banks from years past.

Another adjustment to the 2000 Small Change is the period of time alotted to plugging the porkers.

"Traditionally we've always had the launch late August and the gala in October," says Small Change's other co-chair David Chare. "This year we discussed it and felt it would be appropriate to have the launch in September, when most people are back from their holidays, and then hold the gala in February."

It is hoped that, by doubling the amount of time in which the pigs are being contributed to, the monies raised will also increase.

"Part of the decision was also based on the fact that there's not a lot happening in February," Chare adds. "Last year, for example, there were six other events on the night of our own."

Both men stress that certain elements of the event will remain in place, namely a restaurant venue for the launch and a silent auction component to the gala. A new venue is also being sought for the gala itself.

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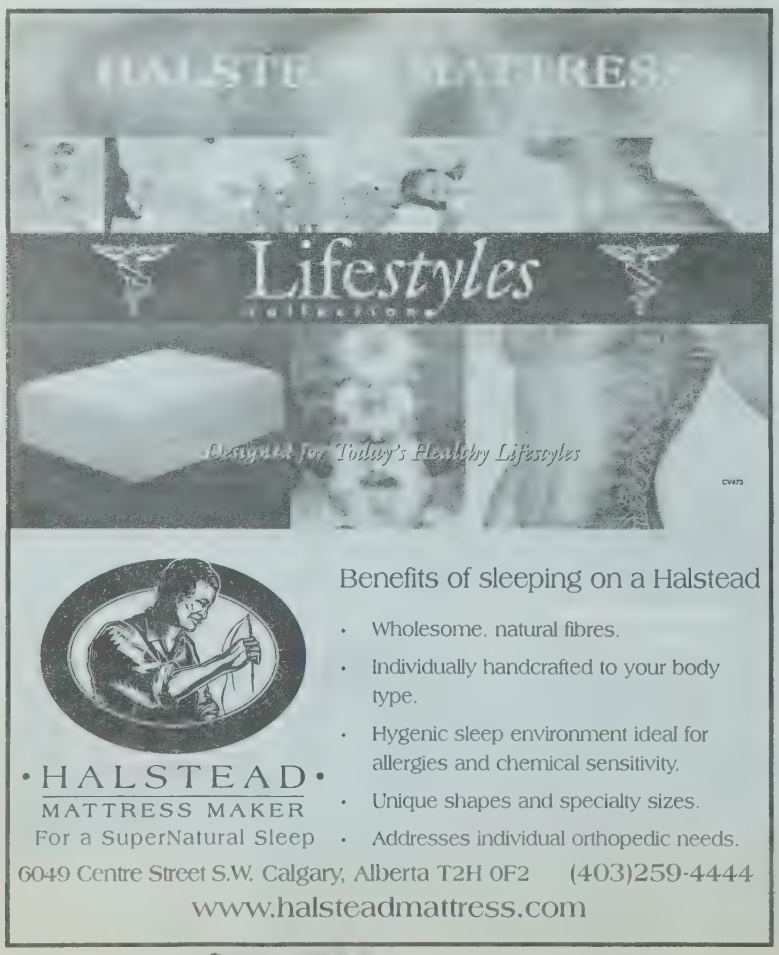

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Peter Grobauer stresses that this year's committee felt it was important to reiterate the true purpose of Small Change... Big Changes: "We'd like to see some aspect of education brought into both the launch and the gala," he says. "We want to let people know where the money is going and remind them that this is not just a social event."

Over the course of seven years, the needs of the Southern Alberta HIV Clinic (Small Change's primary beneficiary) have changed.

"Originally, the clinic's needs were very much equipment-oriented and now, because the nature of the disease is changing so much, it's quality of life programs," David Chare points out. "We're also looking at setting up an endowment fund to provide ongoing support for some of these programs."

At press time, organizers were still negotiating to confirm dates and venues for this year's Small Change... Big Changes gala. The launch party has been confirmed for Bizou (now under new management) although its date is also unconfirmed. *Outlooks* will keep the community posted as details become available.

ARGRA

EVENT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY:	Farmer's Daughter	8 - 9:30 pm
	Wild Rose Dance	9:30 pm - 2 am
SATURDAY:	Pancake Breakfast	8 am - 10
	Rodeo Events	11 am - 4 pm
	Prime Rib Dinner	6 pm
	Hoe-Down	9 pm - 2 am
SUNDAY:	Breakfast	8 am - 10
	Rodeo Events	11 am - 4 pm
	Awards and Closing Ceremonies	6 pm

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Police release survey

Early this month, the Calgary Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee will begin circulation of a new survey designed to gather statistics on assault within the community. While primarily intended to document incidents of gay bashing, the questionnaire also addresses issues of same-sex spousal abuse and gay-on-gay altercations. The survey seeks to catalogue everything from abusive language to outright physical violence and, when completed, will provide a valuable resource for the Calgary Police Service.

CALGARY POLICE SERVICE

"As a police liaison to the gay and lesbian community, I want to gain as much information as I can so that in my position I can better serve the community," says Constable Doug Jones, Hate/Bias Crime Coordinator of the Cultural Resources Unit, "I can also direct the Police Service in how we should respond to the community and how we can make changes to improve how we police it."

The survey, several months in the making, was coordinated by Dr. Ellen Faulkner from the Department of Sociology at the University of Calgary, with the assistance of the liaison committee.

Historically, incidents of both gay-bashing and same-sex domestic abuse have been largely under-reported, primarily due to a perceived lack of support from police departments in centres both large and small. The Calgary Police Service is looking to change that misconception about their own force, and hope the survey is but one of many effective means of changing that perception. Surveys will be available at the Gay/Lesbian Community Police Liaison Committee table at this year's post-Pride parade resource fair, and will also be circulated at the 2000 ARGRA rodeo, being held June 30 through July 2 at Symon's Valley Ranch.

IN THE NEWS

The survey will also appear in the July issue of *Outlooks*.

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Calgary Men's Chorus	2043
Calgary Networking Club	2460
Camp 181	2001
Different Strokes Swim Club	2058
Fairy Tales, Film Festival	2054
Fem to Fem Social Group (for women only)	2050
GLASS	2222
GLCSA	2052
I-Dentity	2036
Integrity	2020
Men's Domestic Conflict Help Line	2030
Men's Project	2016
Metropolitan Community Church	2010
PFLAG Calgary	2018
Pride Calgary	2850
Real Me	2056
Rocky Mountain Cruisers Car Club	2022
SHARP Foundation	2830
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Team Calgary	2870
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Long Yang Club	2025
Men's Support Group	2042
Northern Titans Bowling	2031
Outreach (U of A)	2029
PFLAG	2045
Police Liaison Committee	2038
Prime Timers of Edmonton	2044
River Valley Cyclists	2032
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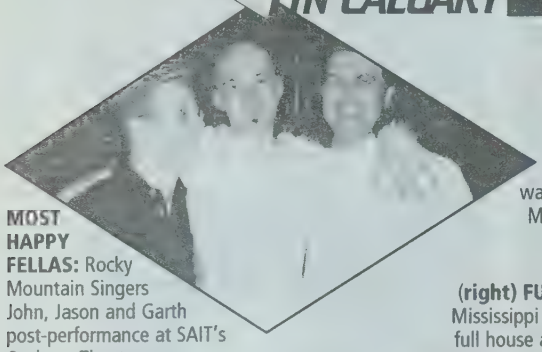
OUT & ABOUT IN CALGARY

(left) TWICE AS LOUD, TWICE AS PROUD: The Rocky Mountain Singers in concert with special guests Edmonton Vocal Minority.



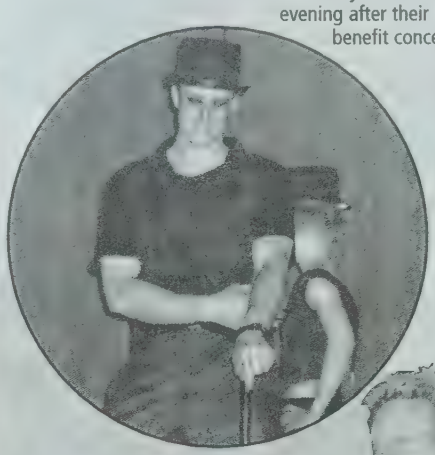
MOST HAPPY FELLAS: Rocky Mountain Singers John, Jason and Garth post-performance at SAIT's Orpheus Theatre.

(right) CHORUS LINE: Audience members view the wares at the May 6 RMS concert.

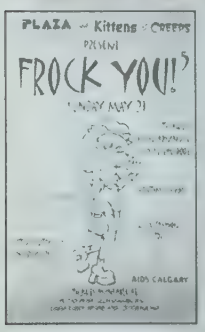
(above) COURTLY BEARING: Empress XXIV Rhoda Stiffy and Emperor XXIV Ernie at Investitures at Boystown.

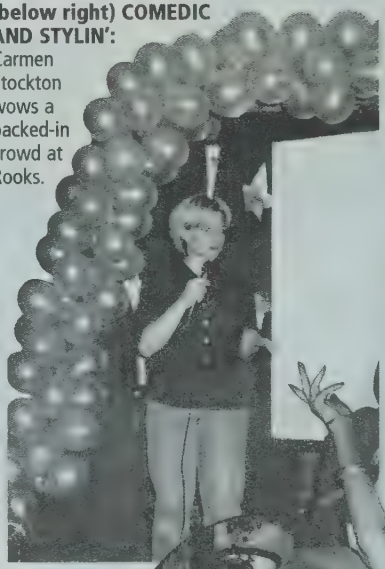
(right) FULL STEAM AHEAD: Mississippi Steamboat plays to a full house at Money-Pennies the evening after their CD benefit concert.

(right) VAMP ATTACK: Ms. Gay Calgary XV Dionne Starr takes time out at Investitures to strike a pose for the camera.



WE GOT FROCKED!: A selection of visuals from the fifth annual Frock You! benefit for AIDS Calgary, held at Kensington's Plaza Theatre.





(below right) COMEDIC AND STYLIN': Carmen Stockton wows a packed-in crowd at Rooks.

(above) FIRST SONG: LAST DANCE: Mz. Toni kicks off the Hair, Heels & Hairspray show at the Rendezvous.

(above right) RENDEZ-VA-VA-VA-VOOM!: Carly gives good glamour at the Rendezvous show.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF FRUIT: Kiwi shows her mastery of the grand gesture.

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by Outlooks staff

Whether planned or not, the year 2000 has brought with it a degree of change in many areas, not the least of which has been seen in some of the events in Calgary's gay social calendar. This year, such long-standing events as Calgary Cares and Small Change... Big Changes have undergone a series of minor alterations to maintain their reputations as perennial favourites. The Expressions Gala Art Show and Auction is no exception.

Now in its sixth year, this fundraiser for Calgary's Gay and Lesbian Community Services Association (GLCSA) will be found "hangin'" in a new venue: the Pumphouse Theatre.

"We were looking for a 'warmer' environment, a place where we had better control of lighting so that we could show the works in, well, a 'better light'," says Expressions art coordinator Harris Kirshenbaum of the venue change. "Locations, as you know, are very tough to find for this kind of event so we went looking right after the last show, which was in April [1999]."

The eight-person volunteer committee working to put Expressions 2000 together is optimistic that moving the date from April to late June will allow guests to enjoy the greenspace that surrounds the new riverside venue.

"We're hoping that, as there is space in this environment, we can move part of the evening outdoors, weather permitting." Kirshenbaum says. "This new spot is more casual, much less institutional than previous years."

Expressions is essentially a two-component event, with a formal art sale as well as a silent auction. Artists are asked to submit at least two pieces for the cause, one for the silent auction and one at a fixed price—established by the artist—with a nominal commission fee on top. The event has always featured a selection of wares as diverse as the community, from glasswork and *papier-maché* to printwork and traditional paintings.

"It looks to celebrate the work done by artists in the community, whether they are part of the gay community or not," Kirshenbaum explains. "For many of the artists it works out to be an excellent promotional opportunity; some of them look at it as a very important part of their year's work."

One thing that will be missing from this year's show is live entertainment.

"We tried it in the past and found it was difficult to do in a situation where people were focused on conversation and looking at art, rather than paying attention to someone who's trying to entertain from a stage," Kirshenbaum says.

Food and drink, however, have not changed, and Kirshenbaum assures patrons that there will be "plenty of both." As the official beer sponsor, Big Rock's products will figure prominently alongside a martini bar and hors d'oeuvres provided by Money-Pennies.

At the time of going to press, the following artists had been confirmed for this year's show: Edwin Lim, Lindy Rasmussen, Betty Beyer, Dale Kirshenman, Wayne Olson and Edward Mitchell. For more information on Expressions 2000, contact the GLCSA at 234-8973 or visit their website at www.glcsa.org.

The photos on this page are from last year's Expressions show.

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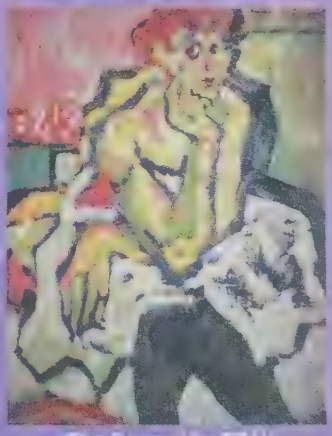

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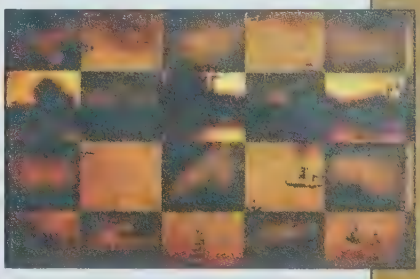

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Sweet sounds and Stetsons

by Outlooks staff

It is with more than a little pride that David Freeman, rodeo director for this year's ARGRA Rodeo, relates that his organization's event has the distinction of being the two-hundredth gay rodeo officially sanctioned by the International Gay Rodeo Association.

Well-known to Calgarians, not to mention hundreds of visitors from around the world, the ARGRA Rodeo has grown by leaps and bounds with each passing year. And that still holds true in 2000.

"This year will feature lots and lots of new entertainment, for one thing," Freeman says. "We have Charlie's Cloggers coming up from Denver again; David Westman, the trick roper, is also coming back; plus we've got singers from Vancouver and Los Angeles."

One distinguished guest who will be lending her presence—and talents—to this year's rodeo is Miss IGRA.

"She's a singer and she also plays guitar," Freeman says, "she'll be here with some of the other IGRA 'royalty'."

One element—and I do mean *element*—that has dogged the past few rodeos has been rain, and temperatures sitting at less-than-seasonal values.

"The weather is going to be *perfect*," Freeman insists. "We don't want people to get sunburned so this year we have an 1,800 square foot tent that will replace the Rodeo Drive area."

Freeman adds that the tent "will be heated on the off-chance that it's chilly in the morning."

Another partial tent will be installed in the courtyard area of Symon's Valley's main dance hall, to provide shade for the annual pancake breakfast as well as a semi-outdoor space for dance breaks on the Friday and Saturday nights.

Despite loads of entertainment, the mainstay of the ARGRA event is, of course, the rodeo itself. Traditional events such as Bullriding and Team-roping are intermingled with such cowboy camp classics as Goat Dressing and Wild Drag Races. The rodeo is also significant in that it truly unites members of both the gay and lesbian communities in a single event.

"This really is a great way to get the whole community together for a good time," Freeman stresses.

Even if rodeo competition is not on your list of leisure activities, the ARGRA Rodeo offers something for everyone. Aside from the aforementioned entertainment, the shopping area formerly known as Rodeo Drive features a variety of wares from retailers both within and without the immediate community. Featured vendors this year will include H Bar B Ranch, the official supplier of IGRA merchandise, and purveyor of high quality western wear. A graphic artist from Kelowna will also be on hand to turn photographic treasures into works of art.

"This guy can do stuff that'll just blow you away," Freeman says. "If they're interested, people should remember to bring pictures of their kids, pets, whatever."

In past years, the Friday night performers have been a major draw for rodeo guests, and have included country star Julian Austin (1999) and lesbian comic Suzanne Westenhoefer (1998). This year's featured act is Farmer's Daughter (see interview with bandmember Angela Kelman, right).

"We're incredibly excited about Farmer's Daughter, and the response we've had from the community has been really, really good," says Freeman.

At press time, the service area campsites were completely booked, through Freeman asserts that there are still good spaces available in the un-serviced sites. For more information about booking camping space, stable rentals, or general ticket sales, call the ARGRA hotline at 541-8140 or visit their website at www.argra.org.

Farmer's Daughter is one of the hottest acts in Canadian country music. With their performance at the ARGRA Rodeo fast approaching, we decided to check in to see what we could expect from these three talented artists. In an exclusive interview, band member Angela Kelman spoke with *Outlooks* about performing and issues of homophobia.

Outlooks: So, you're coming to the ARGRA event...

Kelman: Yes—and we're very excited.

Outlooks: Gay rodeo—I take it this is a first for the three of you?

Kelman: Well, we actually played the Royal in downtown Vancouver at the beginning of our career and one of our first really big gigs was the walk for AIDS in Vancouver about seven years ago. We have a fabulous gay following, especially in Alberta.

Outlooks: Do you find that gay fans are a little more boisterous or exuberant when it comes to showing their appreciation?

Kelman: Yeah, they are. They come out in really great numbers, they *are* boisterous, they *are* energetic. And as a performer, that really gives you energy to give back to the crowd. Lots of times you have this energy that you give anyway, but if the crowd's a dud or a little sleepy or a little reserved you end up feeling drained at the end of the show. But if you're getting the energy back—and in our experience we've had wonderful energy back from any of our gay audiences—it's refreshing.

Outlooks: Well, the ARGRA rodeo should definitely give you some good energy back.

Kelman: Oh, I'm sure it's going to be a great time. You know, I have a funny story that I just *have* to tell you. Five years ago we were doing some work with Revlon Canada and we did an "in-store" at London Drugs with Revlon. And our make-up artist was a drag queen. After he got to know us and feel comfortable with us he said "I've got to show you this picture." So he pulled out a shot of himself in drag and we were "ooh-ing" and "aah-ing" and he was just adorable—it was Ty Morgan. He said "I'm doing a drag show this weekend and we're doing you." We just about hit the floor! We said "Oh, we absolutely have to go!" I think the bar was called Trax, and we went to the show that weekend and they did Son Of A Preacher Man and were fabulous. They all had better bodies than we did, and their hair was really good, too! We just had a wonderful time and everybody treated us so well and we got up and sang some *a capella* tunes. It was definitely one of the highlights of our career. It was a pretty big gig we had at the Max Bell Centre and there was an act from the States we wanted to see that went on after us, but we took off because the drag queen show was much more important! [Laughs.]

Outlooks: Do you think that "country" anything—music, people, whatever—gets an unfairly bad rap as being redneck or intolerant of diversity?

FARMER'S DAUGHTER (ANGELA KELMAN, FAR RIGHT)

Kelman: I think that's changing... I think the world's changing. Some of my best friends are gay and the stories I hear from them horrify me. It makes me angry and it makes me protective of them like they're my kids. They'll come back from a weekend camping trip and say "There was a pickup cruising slowly by with these young, vocal, drunk men shouting obscenities..." And I'm terrified! It's not something I'd think of and none of my friends are of that mentality, so you kind of forget it exists. But it will always exist; there will always be an ignorant part of the population that can't embrace change or reality. I think with the surge in popularity in country music it brought in a whole new sector of listeners. And with that came very "urban" minded people. I think there is still a percentage of country music listeners that can be... well, you know...

Outlooks: I think perhaps that percentage exists in any genre of music to a certain extent.

Kelman: Oh, absolutely.

Outlooks: I think it also helps when someone like Garth Brooks takes part in an event like Equality Rocks.

Kelman: Yes, it's wonderful. I think you have a responsibility as soon as you put yourself in the public eye, to be a role model. I feel a tremendous responsibility to be a role model for young women. And I also feel that doing things like the walk for AIDS makes a statement. I mean, I'm so impressed with Garth Brooks—the guy didn't have to do anything but his sister is gay, and what it is is getting behind people you love and saying to the rest of the world "Hey, my sister's a person like everyone else." It doesn't matter who you are, everyone wants privacy in their own home and what they do is their own business, whether they're heterosexual, bisexual or gay.

Outlooks: What can we expect from Farmer's Daughter at this year's rodeo?

Kelman: Lots of fun! We're very spontaneous and we react a lot to what the crowd is doing. We know we're in for a great time at that rodeo. We're looking forward to doing all the familiar radio and video tunes, as well as a few surprises.

OUTLOOKS

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WILD ROSE PRIDE GUIDE 2000

Building on the Foundation

OUTLOOKS MILLENNIUM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

It has been six months since the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation launched and we are pleased to announce that, on all fronts, things are moving along nicely. Since January of this year, applications from emerging gay and lesbian groups and projects have been coming in from coast to coast; the diversity and enthusiasm they represent throughout our community is staggering. Recent board approval of the second tier application process also means that successful applicants from these groups will be one step closer to achieving their—and the foundation's—goals.

Pride Week 2000 will be an important time for the OMCF in terms of both visibility and fundraising projects.

On June 16th, the Friday of Pride Week in Calgary, we are pleased to co-sponsor the first annual Tickled Pink comedy night, which will take place at the Centre For Performing Arts in the Martha Cohen Theatre. The evening will open with a performance by local musical group Maud, followed by the comedic stylings of gay funnyman Paul J. Williams. This rising star on the comedy scene, who now makes his home in New York, draws heavily on his experiences as a Southern Baptist growing up in Texas. The results are fresh, fast and very, very funny.

The evening continues with powerhouse lesbian comic Michele Balan, a native New Yorker and favourite featured performer on RSVP cruises, amongst other venues.

Tickled Pink, as well as being a new feature on the Pride Week roster, will also serve as a fundraiser for the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation and Transitions, an organization dedicated to serving the needs of children living with chronic illness. Tickets for this special evening are available through the Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, Money-Pennies and Rooks or by calling the *Outlooks* offices at 228-1157. General admission tickets are $30 each. A limited number of reserved VIP tickets are also available at a cost of $40; these entitle patrons to designated floor seating, admission to a special pre-performance reception with the comics and a post-show wrap party at an off-site venue. This is one event that's not to be missed.

Another fundraising project slated for Pride Week is the sale of custom-designed Wide Rose Pride temporary tattoos. Ever since the rainbow triangle and rose logo appeared on our first Pride Guide, requests have been coming in for it to appear on everything from t-shirts to coffee mugs. A U.S. company helped put a new spin on logo merchandise by creating a special short-term tattoo especially for the foundation. These colourful transfers will be available throughout the city during Pride Week for a minimum donation of a loonie each. Interestingly, the tattoos last anywhere from twenty-four hours up to one week, depending on the wearer's volume of alcohol consumption! Look for them in Calgary at Backlot, Boystown Metro, Detour, Money-Pennies, Rainbow Pride Resource Centre and Rooks and in Edmonton at Express Video and Buddy's Pub.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that memberships to the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation will soon be on sale at Rainbow Pride Resource Centre.

Six businesses have come on board as corporate sponsors for the memberships, and have included special offers and membership discounts on the reverse side of the card. The annual fee of $20.00, entitling members to a variety of specials and perks, has been reduced by fifty percent to cover the balance of 2000. Be sure to pick one up and show your support of these businesses and the foundation created to support the gay and lesbian communities across Canada.

We wish you all a safe, memorable and, above all else, fun week of Pride.

The Board of the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation

OUTLOOKS
WILD ROSE PRIDE GUIDE

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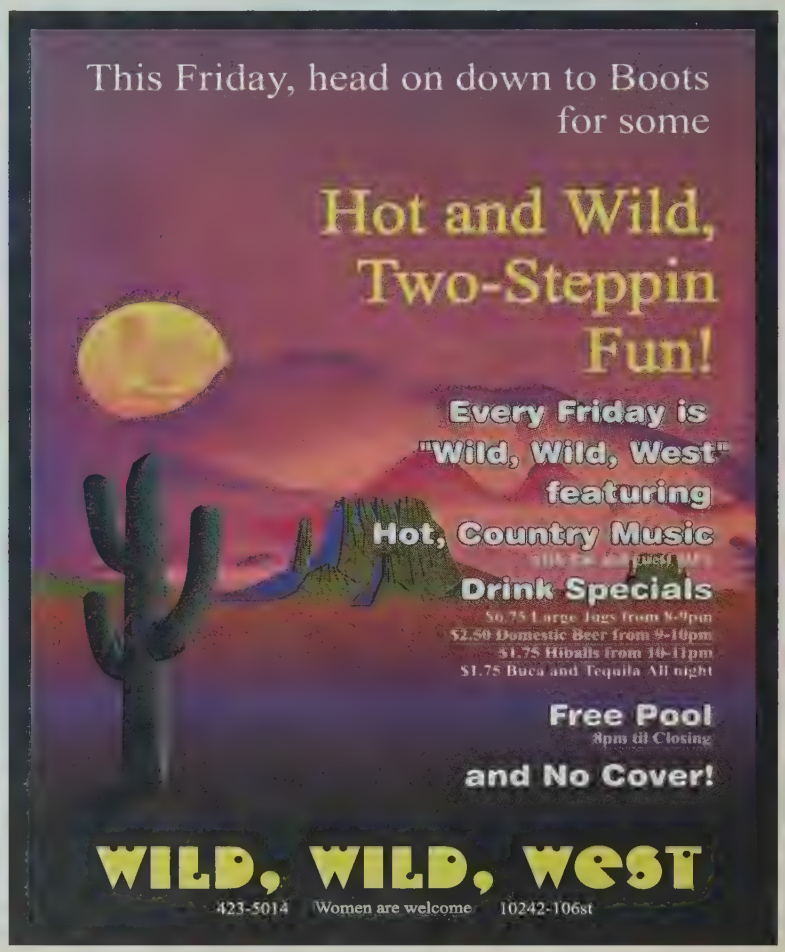


OUTLOOKS WILD ROSE PRIDE GUIDE 2000

The editor's rant

Over the past two months, there has been a considerable buzz in the media over what has come to be known as 'The Rant,' a sixty-second rah-rah session that extols the virtues of everything from toques to beavers. The advertisement's star, a presentably cute hoser-boy named Joe (ostensibly "all-Canadian," if you overlook the American jeans and the British soundtrack) has captured the hearts of proud Canadians from coast to coast.

Within the gay community, talk of the now-famous commercial has been limited to how "do-able" its tartan-clad cheerleader is (he's hovering around a seventy-two percent approval rating currently—way to go, Joe) and the unlikelihood of finding any *average* Canadian with such a high do-ability rate.

But wait, there's more; one more thing that has not gone unnoticed in lavender circles. At one point, our glowing-hearted hero gives a brief nod to the concept of "diversity," as a vaguely rainbow-hued band dotted with multi-ethnic faces appears on the screen behind him. This is good. This is big—more significant than hoser-boy's high cheekbones and perky nose.

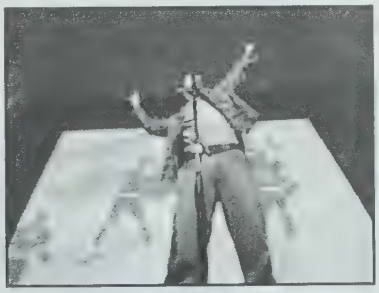
In a sixty-second commercial, a lot

of information has to be conveyed in a very short period of time. Scripts are quite often edited to a point where they resemble paper doilies more than they do actual pieces of paper. Somehow, somewhere, it was decided that the idea of diversity had to stay in what would become the most popular commercial in the history of Canadian television. This is good. This is big—more significiant than sparkling eyes and adorably tousled hair.

Another key element in the whole campaign is the issue of pride itself. All too often, our community is asked, at various points during the summer, why we have to demonstrate the fact that we are proud of who we are. Thanks to 'The Rant', we now have a reference point to which many more people can relate when it comes to the issue of pride—and Pride. Part of the conversation might go something like this:

MR. FAGGOT: Well, Mr. Naysayer-Crabbypants, think of it like this: what if the United States were straight and overbearing and Canada gay and misunderstood. So now we get this guy named Joe...

You get the picture. All of a sudden the concept of pride—big 'P' or otherwise—is much less of an issue. It's something we all must feel about some part of us, whether we're gay, disabled, black, Jewish—or hey, even Canadian... This is good. This is big—much more

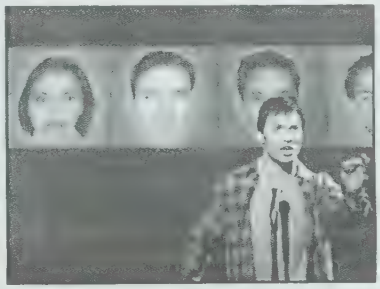


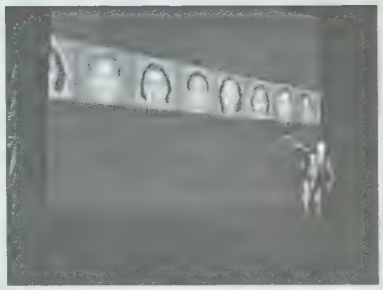
significant than big hands and a pert butt (okay, we can't actually see it but you *know* it's there).

Molson has been a major supporter of the gay community for some years now, at Pride celebrations and at other points throughout the year. For the most part, however, this support has been seen primarily by the gay community and their friends. The average Canadian does not know that one of our nation's largest corporations enters large-scale floats in the Pride parades of major cities or provides much-needed sponsorship money for gay events.

At this point, some of the cynics among you are likely saying "Sure, but it's lucrative and trendy to go after the gay dollar." True, and there's nothing wrong with that. But there is a difference between advertising, which seeks to take money from the consumer, and sponsorship, which is ultimately about giving back. Molson has been far more visible—and generous—with the latter. (You'll also note that not a single Molson ad appears anywhere in this publication—there goes the "graft" theory...).

The most important thing 'The Rant' has accomplished for us is getting the word out—and that word is "diversity." The next time the average Canadian hears that term, it will likely be found somewhere in the announcement of Bill C-23's passing into law. Or on a





television broadcast discussing the issue of hate crimes. Or maybe, just maybe, it will crop up in a conversation (fuelled by a case of Molson products, perhaps?) held by a bunch of beaver-loving, toque-wearing *average* Canadians who just learned a new word and are eager to try it out.

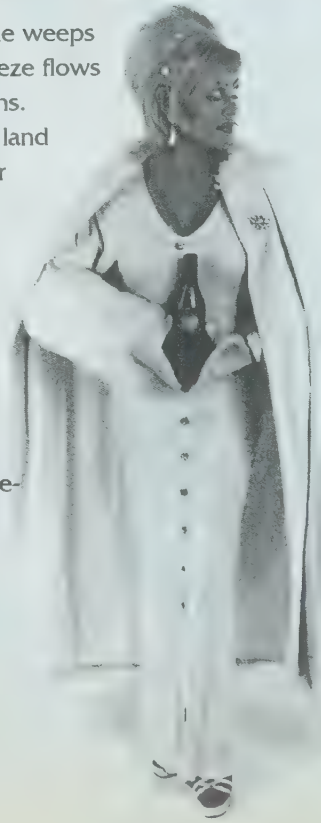
Thanks, Joe. Happy Pride.

David Crosson, Editor-in-Chief

OUTLOOKS RESOURCE DIRECTORY is listed in its entirety at http://www.outlooks.ab.ca

THE ICE QUEEN

She's so cool she weeps icicles. Anti-freeze flows through her veins. Throughout the land she is known for her chilling fabulousness. What libation could possibly hold its own in her presence? Why, Polar Ice Vodka, of course- a clean and smooth palate teaser from the Great White North.



THE FROSTIEST BITCH

- 1 oz Polar Ice vodka
- 1 oz Peppermint schnapps
- 1 oz Creme de cacao
- 1 oz Blue curaco

Shake with lots of ice and strain into a chilled glass. Garnish with a sprig of mint and proceed with caution.

OUTLOOKS WILD ROSE PRIDE GUIDE 2000

Silver screen turns pink

bu Outlooks staff

Clap if you believe in fairies—or at least in the value of independent gay and lesbian cinema. The Fairy Tales Film Festival is set to flutter, flash and fly across the silver screen for its second year on the evenings of June 15th and 16th, 2000.

The brainchild of Kevin Allen, coordinator of operations for the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers, the inaugural Fairy Tales was made possible with the assistance of Trevor Alberts and Kelly Langaard, in less than a four month period. The CSIF and Gay and Lesbian Community Services Association were also key players in getting the project "rolling" for '99.

Not surprisingly, this newcomer to last year's Pride Week roster was a smash success, filling Inglewood's Garry Theater with individuals eager to see accurate and diverse portrayals of gay life on celluloid.

"One of the reasons the festival exists is to display diversity in the community", says Trevor Alberts, chair of Fairy Tales 2000, "so we want to show as many films as we can in two nights".

The issue of diversity, as with last year's festival, will be covered handily by the wide range of 'shorts' showcased prior to each evening's feature presentation. Audiences for these cinematic mosaics (there are separate programs for each night) can expect to be treated to everything from the U.S. release *Dirty Baby Does Fire Island* to New Zealand's *Twilight Of The Gods*.

The feature films landed by Fairy Tales organizers for this year's event include Britain's *Bedrooms and Hallways* and the Swedish release *Show Me Love*.

"*Bedrooms and Hallways* was one of the more popular sell-outs at the London Gay and Lesbian Film Festival last year," Alberts says of the Thursday night feature, "and the second one, *Show Me Love*, is kind of like the girls' version of *Beautiful Thing*."

One of the only drawbacks involved with last year's Fairy Tales was the combined blessing and curse that resulted from overwhelming community support. Organizers of the '99 event were thrilled with the crush of bodies that turned up for the two evening run; the heat generated by those bodies was another matter—particularly when confined to a modestly proportioned theater on two consecutive *hot* nights.

"We had dealt with the Garry Theatre before for the $100 Film Festival, so [its limited capacity] wasn't surprising, but the heat *was*—we had only ever used that venue in the fall," says Alberts. "We felt that the turn-out on the Friday night last year would have been a lot better had it not been so hot."

To prevent the same situation from happening again, and to accommodate the increased crowds anticipated for Fairy Tales 2000, organizers have settled on a larger, more central venue.

"This year's event will be held at the Uptown Theatre," Alberts says. "Everybody knows where it is, everybody can get there; Inglewood was a neighborhood that wasn't entirely familiar to everybody in town." Alberts also stresses that there will be plenty of time—and space—to mingle in-between the shorts programs and features each night.

If Fairy Tales 2000 it as successful as organizers hope, Calgary's community can expect to see more and more in future years.

"We're going to try to get some feedback from the audience this year, which was something we couldn't do last year," Alberts says. "With so much material to choose from out there, we'd like to see future festivals expand to three, maybe even four nights."

In the meantime, Fairy Tales is holding steady at a two night run, destined to become a perennial favorite in Pride Weeks to come. This does not, however, mean that organizers are not looking to explore the realm of possibility that such events can offer.

"One of the ideas we are considering is having screenings throughout the year leading up to the festival, and maybe bringing in the makers of the films that we show to have workshops for other filmmakers as well as the gay and lesbian community," Alberts enthuses. "I don't think that any community, including Calgary, should go without seeing some of it, especially when they get the chance."

The second annual Fairy Tales Film Festival runs June 15th and 16th at the Uptown Theatre (612 8th Ave. S.W.). The shorts program commences each night at 7 pm and runs approximately ninety minutes, with feature presentations starting at 9:30 pm. Tickets are available through the CSIF (#500, 1304 4th St SW 205-4747), GLCSA (#205a, 223 12th Ave. SW 234-8973) and the Rainbow Pride Resource Centre (L100, 822 11th Ave SW 266-5685).

Mr. B. Feater

Our Mr. Feater is somewhat of an expert when it comes to loosening up the notorious British stiff upper lip. He is an avid believer that anyone--not just mad dogs and Englishmen--can brave the noonday sun when fortified with a shot or two of Beefeater gin.

GIN-CASSIS FIZZ

2½ oz	Beefeater Gin
1½ oz	Lemon juice
1 tsp	Sugar (superfine)
4 oz	Club soda
½ oz	Creme de cassis

In a shaker half-filled with ice cubes, combine the gin, lemon juice and sugar. Shake well. Strain into a collins glass almost filled with ice cubes. Add the club soda. Stir well. Drop the cassis into the centre of the drink.

CELEBRATE PRIDE 2000!

I encourage all the readers of Outlook Magazine across Alberta to take time in June to celebrate gay pride – take part in a parade, enjoy a picnic, dance the night away, participate in a sports event!

This is the one time of the year that gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered people and their friends join together to acknowledge the achievements of the past year. Whether you remember changes in legislation or growth in your personal life, it is time to publicly acknowledge our wonderful community in the many cities of this province.

2000 marks the new millennium and June is the time for lesbians and gay men to celebrate our lives!

Yours in Pride,

Michael Phair
Councillor, Ward 4

Email: michael.phair@gov.edmonton.ab.ca

AIDS CALGARY
awareness association

and

The Men's Project

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508 2500
e-mail: info@aidscalgary.org
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AIDS CALGARY
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Partico Productions presents

Flamingo
Pride Dance

Saturday
June 17, 2000
in the
Citadel Theatre Atrium
9828 - 101 A Avenue

Rainbow Business Fair
noon to 6pm (Free of Charge)

Pride Awards
6pm to 7pm (Free of Charge)
in the Tucker Theatre

Dance
8pm to 5am

DJs in order
Lefty
Patrick Ryley
Eddy Toonflash
Nick Miago
Manny Mulatto
*After party 5am – Sublime

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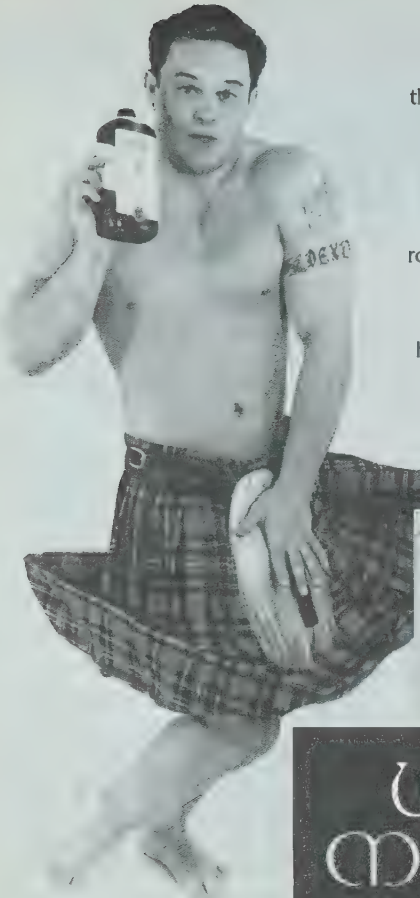
Tickets
Support your community group

The Citadel Charge by Phone – 425-1820
Edm. Rainbow Bus. Assoc. - 422-6207
Youth Understanding Youth - 466-4808
The Gay & Lesbian Comm. Ctr. - 488-3234
Pride Committee - 453-3782 Dignity - 451-1794
The Court - 425-swan Team Edmonton - 437-0687
Alberta PFLAG - 465-3057 Northern Titans - 454-0313

Tickets available at the above bars and at the following locations:
Pride Video, Orlando Books, Cafe La Gare

Sponsors
Algonquin Travel at Eaton Centre,
Partico Productions, Molson
Vue Magazine, Times 10, See Magazine,
Pride Video, All Star Sound, Outlooks
Cruiseline and the "Spirits of Pride"



What might Warren possibly be hiding under that kilt of his? Could it be the secret recipe for the distinctive Ballantine's scotch blend? When he's not wrestling bears or roaming the highlands, Mr. McSporran takes time to "stop and smell the heather" with his favourite guy, Rob Roy.

PERFECT ROB ROY

2½ oz	Ballantine's Scotch
1 tsp	Sweet vermouth
1 tsp	Dry vermouth
1	Maraschino cherry

In a mixing glass half-filled with ice cubes, combine the Scotch, sweet vermouth, and dry vermouth. Stir well. Strain into a cocktail glass. Garnish with the cherry or a lemon twist.

Warren McSporran

Pride Websites

Vancouver: www.vanpride.bc.ca
Winnipeg: www.gaypridewinnipeg.com
London: www.pride.london.on.ca
Ottawa: www.gaycanada.com/ottawa-pride
Sudbury: www.gaycanada.com/sudbury-pride
Toronto: www.torontopride.com
Waterloo/Wellington: www.rainbow.on.ca/rpc
Montreal: www.diverscite.org
Halifax: chebucto.ns.ca/CommunitySupport/HPC

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Contains Hemp:
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Money-pennies

Come Home To Calgary's Friendliest "People Bar"
"A Place To Meet Friends You Haven't Seen Since Last Night"

Celebrate Pride & A.R.G.R.A Rodeo Weekend

Sunday June 4:
A.R.G.R.A Volunteer Orientation & Sign up
$2.00 BBQ Burgers & hot dogs
All proceeds to A.R.G.R.A
2pm - ?

Thursday June29:
Rodeo Weekend Kick Off
Live Entertainment
Mississippi Steamboat 8 - 10
BBQ - Draught Beer

Friday June 9:
Kick off Pride Week
BBQ - 6pm - 9pm

Monday July 3:
5th Annual Survivors Party
Draught Beer - BBQ 6pm
Party to the sounds of **Mississippi Steamboat**
7 -9 pm

Sunday June 11:
After Parade Drink & Food Specials

Sunday June 18:
Pride Survivors Brunch Buffet
10am - 3pm
Includes champ/OJ
$9.95 per person

"Look for our 1st Anniversary Party in July"

1742 10th Ave SW. Calgary Phone: 263-7411

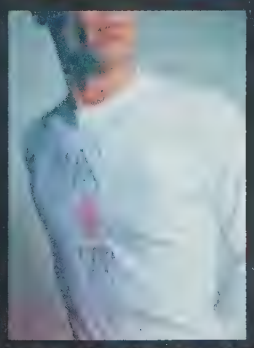
STRIDE WITH PRIDE

PARADE ROUTE: CALGARY

PARADE ROUTE: EDMONTON

For more information, check out the Pride Guide on page 8 of this pullout

Purr



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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
AT THESE LOCATIONS

EDMONTON
BUDDY'S PUB
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CALGARY
METRO
DETOUR

CALGARY

Friday, June 2

Pride Calgary presents a pre-Pride launch event at Detour, 318 17th Ave SW. Drop by to purchase dance tickets and t-shirts, or to find out more about volunteer opportunities for this year's celebration.

Friday, June 9

Come on down to Detour and show everyone just how proud you are, Princess. Tuck it and strut it at the fourth annual Princess Pride Pageant starting at midnight. Door proceeds from this event go in support of the Rainbow Lambda Society. First prize is $100 cash.

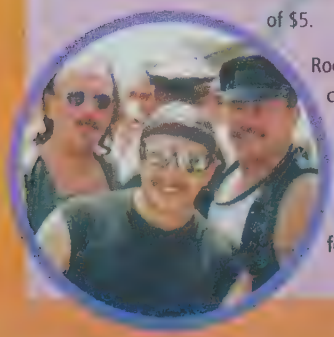
Saturday, June 10

Get Pride Week off on the right foot with the Alpine Frontrunners Pride Run, beginning at the Eau Claire YMCA. Registration for both the 5 km Fun Run or the 3 km Walk commences at 8 am, with a starting time of 9 pm. Be sure to lace up and come out for the first official event of Pride Week 2000.

After the run, why not put your feet up and relax with the vocal stylings of the Calgary Men's Chorus? Their special Pride concert, Thanks To Life, starts at 8 pm in the Eckhardt-Gramatte Hall in the Rosza Centre on the University of Calgary campus. For more information call the Chorus Line at 262-3717 or visit the CMC's website at www.geocities.com/menschorus.

The Rocky Mountain Cruisers Car Club is planning a road trip to the Reynolds Museum in Wetaskiwin. For details contact the RMC at rmcruisers@hotmail.com.

Where there's no smoke there's still a fiery-hot event. Camp 181 welcomes one and all to their Pride Week Kick-Off Dance, a non-smoking event being held at Bridgeland Community Centre from 8 pm onward. This event is free to Camp 181 members and open to non-members for a minimal charge of $5.



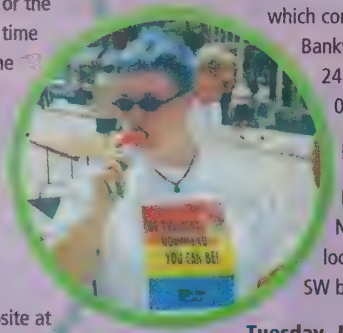
Rooks invites everyone to crawl until they, well—crawl! Their Pride Week Pub Crawl starts at Rooks and will make its way gaily forward through a variety of destinations. The fun continues with a wind-up party back at Rooks.

Sunday, June 11

Pride marches on with the official Pride Parade from noon until 1 pm. The route begins at Connaught School, 1211 12th Ave SW, heads east on 12th Ave, moves south on 8th St, west on 17th Ave and then enters the final leg of its journey northbound up 11th St. There will be a slight change from previous years in that the parade will pass Connaught Park and continue to its starting point, Connaught School, for...

The Street Fair! Join in this community celebration which features a dunk tank, bounce house, playground and beer garden sponsored by Money-Pennies. The stage will be a hub of activity, with non-stop live performances by Band of Women, Calgary Men's Chorus, Salinger, Belly Dancing Duo, Mississippi Steamboat, Rocky Mountain Singers, Sean Martin, Mariette Sluyter and MJ McCann. This event is not to be missed.

Come and give thanks for finding the strength and having the freedom to be yourself at the Metropolitan Community Church's annual Pride Service. People from all denominations are welcome at this special service, which commences at 7 pm in the Bankview Community Centre, 2418 17th St. SW. Call 244-0365 for more information.



Monday, June 12

Bearback hosts a Coffee Night at the Grabbajabba located at 1610 - 10th St. SW beginning at 8 pm.

Tuesday, June 13

Come out and show your support for the first annual Wild Rose Awards, commencing at 8 pm in the Old Y, 223 12 Ave SW. Awards will be presented to individuals, businesses and groups who have made significant contributions to the growth and stability of Calgary's gay and lesbian community.

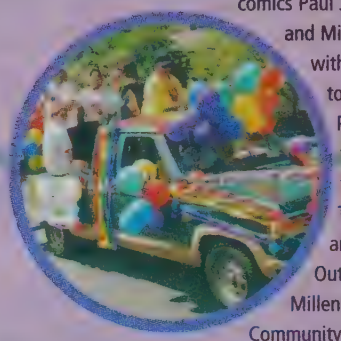
Thursday, June 15

The Fairy Tales Film Festival lights up the silver screen of the Uptown Theatre for its second year, starting with a 'shorts' program at 7 pm. The main feature, *Bedrooms & Hallways*, commences at 9:30 pm (see program on following pages for details).

Friday, June 16

The Fairy Tales Film Festival continues at the Uptown Theatre with a second night of 'shorts' at 7 pm and Swedish-release feature *Show Me Love* starting at 9:30 pm (see program on following pages for details).

Gaiety and laughter will abound in the Martha Cohen Theatre at the Calgary Centre for the Performing Arts with the first annual Tickled Pink comedy night. Local musicians Maud open the evening for hot gay U.S. comics Paul J. Williams and Michele Balan, with a reception to follow. Proceeds of this event go to Transitions and the Outlooks Millennium Community Foundation.



Saturday, June 17

Pride Calgary marks the year 2000 in grand style with The BIG Pride Dance, Diverse Universe, at Max Bell Centre, 1221 Barlow Trail S.E. This year's event will feature bigger lights, fuller sound and more entertainment than ever before. Go-go and flag dancers will move to the sounds of Underground Productions, with special choreographed dance performances in between. Come out and shake it up in celebration of Pride.

Sunday, June 18

Integrity offers a Christian Eucharist service for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities, as well as their friends and supporters. The service takes place at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 1124 14th Ave SW starting at 7 pm. Call 262-4270 for further information.

Beyond Pride

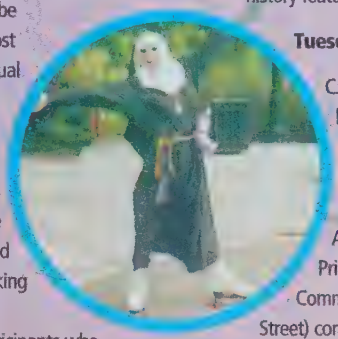
The GLCSA hosts its annual Expressions Art Show fundraiser at the Pumphouse Theatre, commencing at 8 pm on June 24. Come out for an evening of cocktails and mingling amidst some of the best art the city has to offer. Call 234-8973 for more information.

Don't forget the Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association's big rodeo at Symon's Valley Ranch from June 30 - July 2. Farmer's Daughter is this year's featured guest for the Friday night performance, followed by an outdoor breakfast, rodeo events and the big dance on Saturday. Rodeo events and awards continue through Sunday. Don't miss it!

Saturday, June 10

Edmonton kicks off Pride Week and moves gaily forward with opening ceremonies at Grant Notley Park commencing at 5:30 pm. The procession will move west on 100 Avenue and cross Jasper Avenue due north on 121 Street. The final destination is the Oliver Pool and Park, 103 avenue at 118 Street. Everyone is welcome to participate in this no-cost celebration of Pride.

This year's parade, entitled "Show A Little Colour", offers a new twist for participants: The Pink Slipper Awards. Floats will be judged between 4:30 and 5:00 pm prior to the parade's start and two awards have been established to honour the most stunning entries. The first, sponsored by Express Video, is for the most colour. The second of the two, Most Decorative, is sponsored by the Roost and will be awarded to the most decorative float created on a shoestring budget. Each cash award is worth $200.



Pink Rosette Awards will also be presented to the most eye-catching individual entries to the parade. Celebrity judges will circulate through the crowd looking for participants who have excelled in the areas of originality, appearance, effort and theme. As well as the distinctive Pink Rosette, winners will also receive a book, compliments of David McGill.

Oliver Park is also the site of a Pride picnic co-hosted by PFLAG-T and the Imperial Court of the Wild Rose. This event runs from 4 pm to midnight and features a beer garden, loonie carnival and picnic (complete with vegetarian-friendly hot dogs).

The first day of Pride Week 2000 will be celebrated in song by Edmonton Vocal Minority, with a Faure Requiem and concert entitled Only Their Hairdresser Knows! The first portion of the program is dedicated to selections by artists who may possibly be "friends of Dorothy." Faure's Requiem comprises the second portion of this special evening and will serve as the backdrop for a multimedia presentation devoted to Pride, the fight against homophobia and the struggle for gender equality. This portion of the evening will be conducted by Ed Connell. The show begins at 8 pm at the Convocation Hall on the University of Alberta campus. The ticket line number is (780) 479-2038.

Sunday, June 11

The Free To Be Volleyball Association presents "Spikers Unite", a beach volleyball party that runs from 1:30 to 4 pm at the Garneau beach Volleyball Club (10943 84 Avenue). This event is open to all interested parties and the only fees involved are a $3 per person charge for volleyball pr the nominal expense of pop and munchies for those who want them. The party will continue with drinks at Buddy's Pub following the event. For more information, please contact Andrew at (780) 435-9379.

Monday, June 12

CJSR 88.5 FM will broadcast a series of gay and lesbian history features of interest to the community.

Tuesday, June 13

CJSR 88.5 FM's broadcast of gay and lesbian history features continues.

CJSR 88.5 FM also presents Sonic Sisters with host Cori Brewster, from 7 to 8 pm.

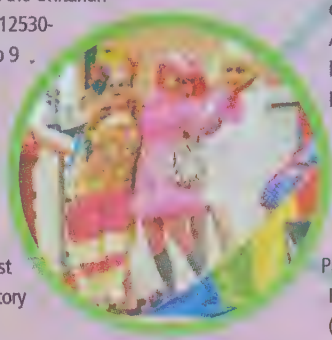
A special Interfaith service in celebration of Pride will be held at the Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (#103 - 10612 124 Street) commencing at 8 pm.

Wednesday, June 14

CJSR 88.5 FM's broadcast of gay and lesbian history features continues.

The Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton welcomes one and all to an open house from 7 to 9 pm. The GLCCE is located at #103 - 10612 124 Street. Call (780) 488-3234 for more information.

The Yours, Mine, Ours & Us Parenting Group presents guest speaker Gloria Filax at the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (12530-111 Avenue) from 7 to 9 pm. For further information contact Liz at (780) 415-5434.



Thursday, June 15

CJSR 88.5 FM's broadcast of gay and lesbian history features continues.

Host Kristy Harcourt takes to the airwaves on CJSR 88/5 FM from 6 to 7 pm with a Gaywire Pride Special. Be sure to tune in.

Café de Ville is the venue for a special evening with artist Steve Walker, hosted by *Times.10* magazine. This event runs from 6 pm until close, with a fifty-eight person capacity. Tickets are $75 per person.

Friday, June 16

CJSR 88.5 FM's broadcast of gay and lesbian history features continues.

The Citadel Theatre (9828-101 A Avenue) will play host to Stepping Out, an art exhibit featuring the works of artist Steve Walker. The show runs from 3 to 8 pm and admission is free.

The Bloomsbury Room upstairs at Orlando Books (10123 82 Avenue) will come alive with Pride when it plays host to a special Pride Week Literary event. Call (780) 432-7633 for more information or contact them via e-mail at: orlando@compusmart.ab.ca.

Saturday, June 17

The Edmonton Rainbow Business Association presents The Flamingo Fair, a business expo that runs from 11 am to 5:30 pm in the Citadel Theatre Atrium (9828 101 A Avenue). This event is free of charge and affords everyone a tremendous opportunity to meet and mingle with businesses that support the gay and lesbian community.

The Edmonton Community Pride Awards, now in their eighth year, will take place starting at 6 pm at the Citadel Theatre (9828 101 A Avenue). Among certificates for outstanding community contributions by individuals, groups events and businesses will be three major awards: The Michael Phair Award recognizes the unparalleled community service in a gay man and the Maureen Irwin Award honours an individual of equal dedication within the lesbian community. This year will also see the Sheryl McInnes award, given in recognition of outstanding contributions to gay and lesbian lives through scholarship and academic work, presented for a second time. There is no admission charge for this event. Further details are available by calling Kristy at the GLCCE (780) 488-3234.

Pride Week 2000 closes with a big bang at the annual Flamingo Pride Dance being held at the Citadel Theatre (9828 101 A Avenue). The party goes from 8 pm to 5 am and tickets are $15 in advance or $20 at the door. All proceeds from this event will be put to good use within Edmonton's gay and lesbian community.

National Pink Triangle Committee
Canadian Union of Public Employees www.cupe.ca

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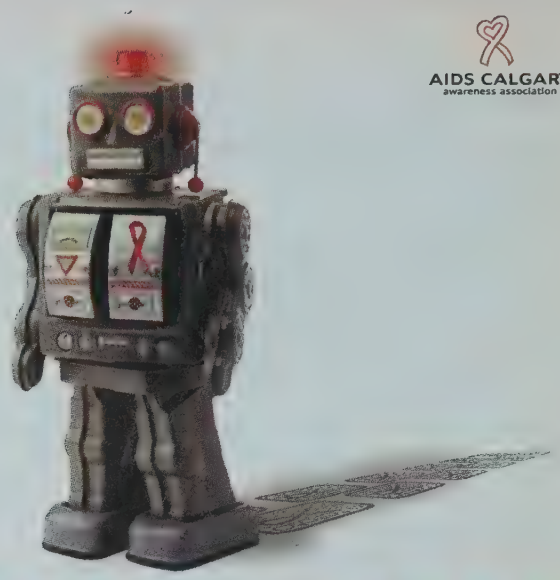

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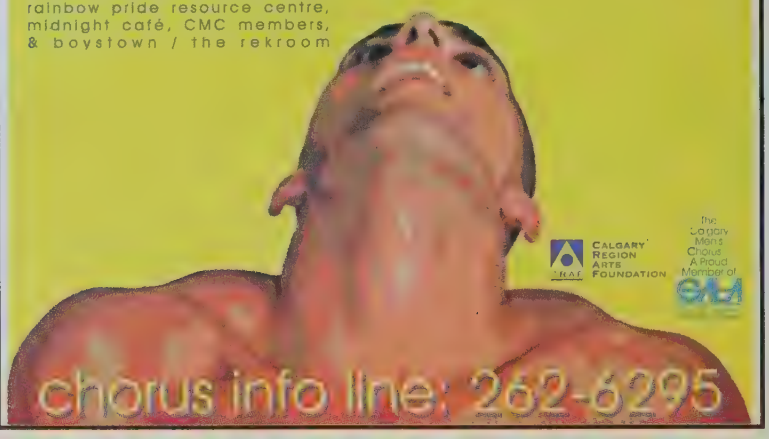

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Fairy Tales 2000

Queer Film/Video Festival

JUNE 15 AND 16, 2000

@ The Uptown 612 8th Ave SW

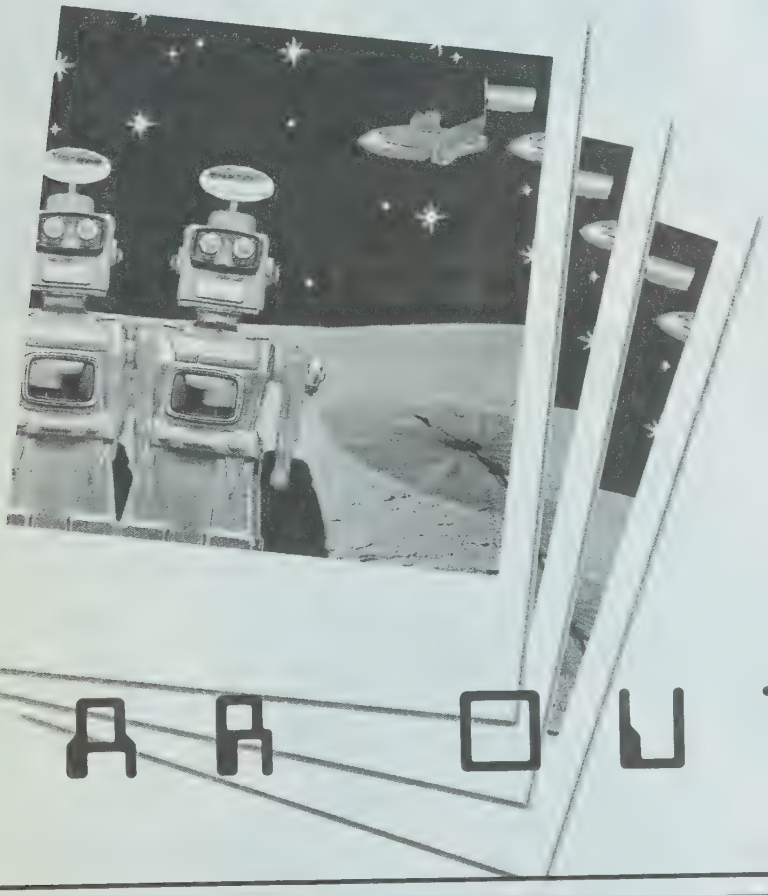
7:00 pm Shorts, 9:30 pm Feature

Tickets $8.00 at the Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, CSIF and GLCSA offices

Ph: 205-4747

www.csif.org/fairytales

(see next two pages for program listings)



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Thursday June 15, 2000

7:00 Short Films

Rick & Steve the Happiest Gay Couple in All the World

USA, 8:00 min

See what happens when a Lego™-people procreate! This stop motion animated film tells the tale of America's gay sweethearts (Rick and Steve), and America's lesbian sweethearts (Kirsten and Dana), when they decide to have a baby together.

Straight Down The Aisle: Confessions of Lesbian Bridesmaids

Canada/USA, 23:00 min

This engaging documentary explores the ubiquitous role of the bridesmaid, from the perspective of lesbians.

The Man From Venus

Canada, 4:00 min

Smart, funny and generous, this experimental work tells it like it is; for at least one man.

The Grass is Greener

U.K, 17:00min

Tom and Mary are strangers who meet on a gay singles caravan holiday. Mary is everything Tom detests about lesbians, and Tom is all Mary loathes about gay men. With no way of getting home, they become stranded in a run-down caravan, and in the golden age of Hollywood.

Fuck this, Ginger

Canada, 4:00min

One redhead, one black woman; and one interracial connection. 2 girls getting nasty; sexualized, racialized, unmasked and visible.

Twilight of the Gods

New Zealand, 15:00 min

Filmed in the subtropical forest of New Zealand, this is the unlikely love story between a Maori warrior and a European soldier. The men are initially enemies, but a spiritual act allows the warrior to return the soldier's growing amorous advances.

Candy Kisses

Canada, 3:00 min

Two girls going through a break-up try to avoid bitter drama, and embrace the sweetness of why they liked each other in the first place.

Two Forms

Canada, 4:00 min

A minimalist / structuralist examination of gender identification, using a sensuous extreme close-up of two interlocking hands.

Helpless Maiden Makes an "I" Statement

Canada, 6:00 min

Clips of evil queens and witches play off the sadomasochistic, and lesbo-erotic, subtexts commonly found in children's entertainment.

Hi I'm Steve

Canada, 7:00 min

Dissatisfied with his sex life, Steve figures he'll give gay telephone dating a try. Although he never seems to find the right person, he does discover a strange new fetish at the core of his sexual being.

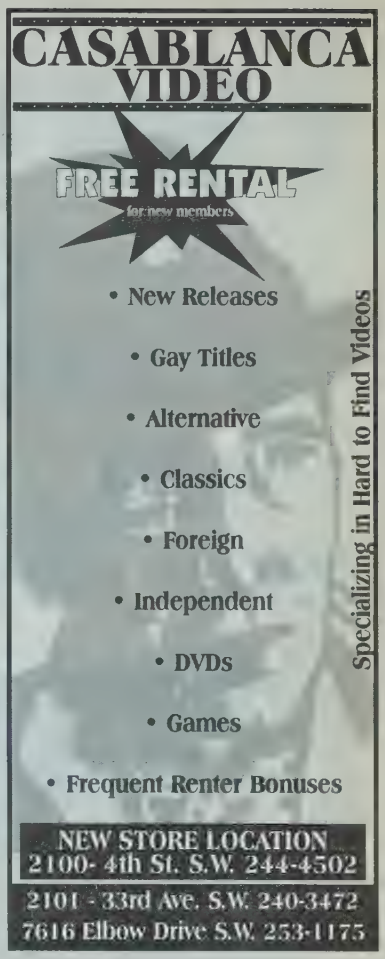
9:30 Feature Film

Bedrooms & Hallways

U.K, 96:00 min

A sparkling comedy of contemporary manners, set in London. The action stems from the misadventures of two flatmates, each pursuing his own brand of romantic happiness. Leo is a reserved but witty artisan who's desperate for love, and Darren is an extrovert hooked on dangerous liaisons. While Darren maintains a bizarre relationship with a sexfiend real estate agent, Leo joins a new age men's therapy group. He promptly falls for fellow new age man Brendan, and reveals his secret after having his turn with the "honesty stone." All hell breaks loose within the group, as the men begin to question their own sexual inclinations.

Thanks to: Trevor Alberts, Kevin Allen, Tom Atkinson, Carl Ayling, Lisa Brawn, Angus Goodkey, Jason Hamilton, David Jones, Colleen Langford, Brenda Lieberman, Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, Collin Smith, Stop & Go Reproductions Ltd., and NUTV.



Friday, June 16, 2000

7:00 Short Films

Dirty Baby Does Fire Island

USA, 9:00 min

Mixing stop-motion animation with live action, this is the story of a native baby doll named Dirty Baby who washes onto the shores of the Fire Island Pines. Dirty Baby experiences the decadent lifestyles of the community's inhabitants, learning all about sex, drugs and working out.

Phoenix is a Cunning Cunt

Canada, 6:00 min

Five little stories about school, and genderfucking. Produced with Out on Screen Video Production Scholarships.

Boy Girl

Canada, 14:00 min

Rocking to Johnny Cash's "Ring of Fire", three women talk about the ambiguities of gender, sharing experiences ranging from a woman who is always mistaken for a man to one who modeled, based on her androgynous looks.

Quiver

Canada, 5:00 min

A requiem for death and a memoir of pain, where the line between consent and assault is blurred. A disturbing journey into the psyche of one man's memory, Quiver presents a mirage of sexual violence in the midst of AIDS, love, regret and exoneration.

Electrical Discharge

Canada, 1:00 min

Grown men shuffling up an electrical charge on an acrylic carpet can say more about being a homo than we normally care to admit.

Below the Belt

Canada, 12:00 min

Two 17 year old girls fall in love and grapple with the enormity of their feelings. Totally absorbed in each other, one makes the astonishing discovery that her mother, who she always believed to be happily married to her father, is having an affair of her own.

Quickest Way to a Man's Heart

Canada, 12:00 min

In the dark hours, Yorgi brings home a disco queen in boogie woogie platforms and a sequin dress. They look for the truth, and when it finally comes out Benny and Yorgi have a lot more to say to each other than just "Swordfish!"

Third Degree

USA, 6:19 min

This experimental video examines the loss of a relationship, involving a 30 year age difference. The video visualizes the first painful steps in letting go, of the relationship, and the craving for the intense desires of youth. It's a meditation on the disintegration and reformulation of desire, as one ages.

My Body

USA, 30:00

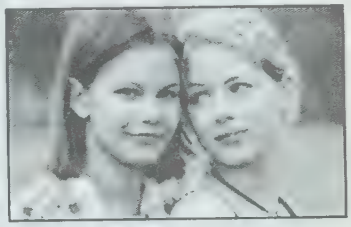
A laugh-out-loud comedy about Charlie, a neurotic (but cute) young man who's in denial about his sexual orientation. When afflicted by a rare and strange new disease "Sexually Repressed Shedding Disorder," Charlie learns to accept the true man within.

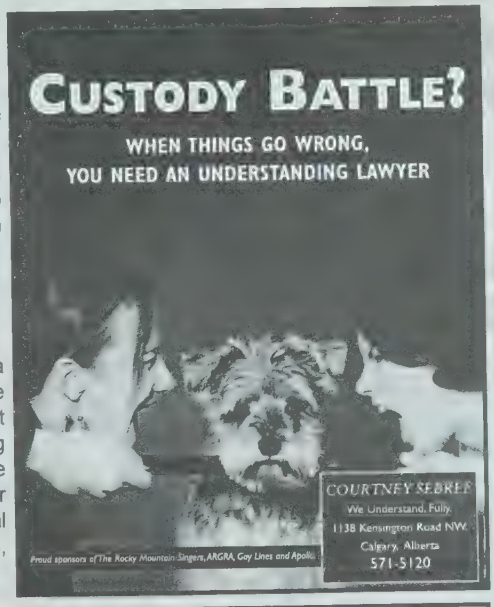
9:30 Feature Film

Show Me Love (Fucking Amal)

Sweden, 85:00 min

Agnes, a 17 year old girl, moves to a sleepy little Swedish town with her family. After a year and a half, she still hasn't made many friends. Only her computer knows that she's madly in love with Elin, the popular rebellious schoolgirl. An accurate representation of teen life, this movie examines all of the cruelty, anguish and desperation of growing up alienated in a small town, without the cliches of mall culture, and melodramatic misunderstanding parent figures. An uplifting tale of tolerance and self-discovery, this film has been compared to "My So-Called Life," and has taken its place as the female version of "Beautiful Thing."





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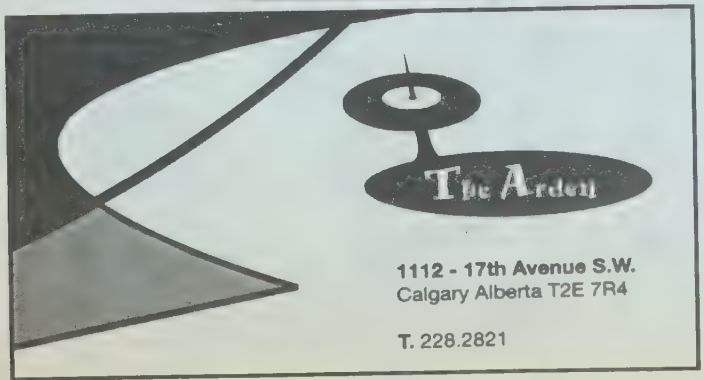

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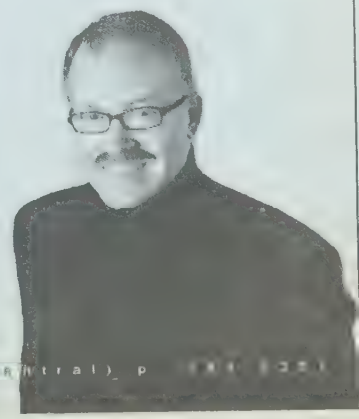

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OUTLOOKS WILD ROSE PRIDE GUIDE 2000

SASKATOON PRIDE

Saturday, June 24

Province-wide Pride march in Regina commences at 2 pm. Contact Saskatoon's Gay and Lesbian Health Services at (306) 665-1224 for further information.

Sunday, June 25

A vigil will be held in Kiwanis Park South beginning at 7 pm. The park is located at Spadina Crecent East near 21st and 22nd streets. There will be refreshments and snacks served following the vigil at a location to be announced.

Monday, June 26

The Gay and Lesbian Health Services, #203 - 220 3rd Avenue S, will host an Arts Coffee House and Exhibition Opening. Come out to celebrate local talent and enjoy cappuccino, espresso and coffee. Event commences at 7:30 pm.

Tuesday, June 27

Drop by the G&LHS and be absolutely out with Crystal Clear & the Divas Gender Bending Players, beginning at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, June 28

The G&LHS welcomes one and all to a History Extravaganza, an evening of contests, quizzes, prizes galore and so much more starting at 7:30 pm.

Thursday, June 29

The silver screen turns pink at the Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, hosted by the G&LHS at their headquarters from 12 pm - 7 pm, then continuing at the Broadway Theatre from 7 pm - 11 pm

Friday, June 30

The dedication and efforts of community members will be honoured at a Gala Awards Night, Concert and Silent Auction beginning at 7 pm. Host venue for this event is the Senior Citizens Centre, located at 614 11th St. E.

Saturday, July 1

The Fags vs. Dykes Ball Game will be just one of the highlights at the Family Day in the Park, starting at 2 pm in Kinsmen Park, Spadina Cres. at 25th Street.

Wind Pride Week down with a bang at the Absolute Pride Dance 2000, which will be held at the Crystal Ball Room (212 3rd Ave. S.) beginning at 8:30 pm. Come and dance the night away at this non-stop, too-hot, 'til-you-drop homo-hop!

For information on these events, please contact the Gay & Lesbian Health Services at (306) 665-1224.

WINNIPEG PRIDE

Monday, June 12

Pride week gets "rolling" with Reel Pride, Winnipeg's gay and lesbian film and video festival being held at the Cinemathique, located at 100 Arthur. Details of this not-to-be-missed event are still forthcoming, so check out the Winnipeg Gay Pride website for updates. The festival runs until the 18th.

Another fabulous start to Pride Week is Blurring the Labels... Looking Beyond Yourself art exhibit that runs from June 12-18 at the Adelaide McDermot Gallery, 318 McDermot Avenue. The opening reception run 7-10 pm on Tuesday, June 13th and will feature live performance pieces. This diverse gathering of artists' work was curated by James Padden of the W.A.G.

Thursday, June 15

The Rogues Gallery and Coffee House, 432 Assiniboine Avenue, is the venue for a Pride Professionals Wine and Cheese, which runs from 5 pm - 9 pm. This event is sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association, Gay and Lesbian Educators, Gay and Lesbian Lawyers Association, Gay and Lesbian Association of Doctors, and the Lambda Gay and Lesbian Professional Organization of Manitoba. The evening will feature guest speakers, live entertainment, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Business attire is requested.

Galaxy Skateland Roller Rink, 95 Portage, is the location of the Youth Group Roller Dance Party, which runs from 9:30 pm to midnight. This all-ages event will feature pseudo-retro music from the '80s and '90s and door admission is only $5.

Friday, June 16

The Pride 2000 Coffee House takes place at the Bulman Centre, located on the University of Winnipeg campus. This non-alcoholic event, a benefit for the Rainbow Resource Centre, will feature live performances and a craft show.

Saturday, June 17

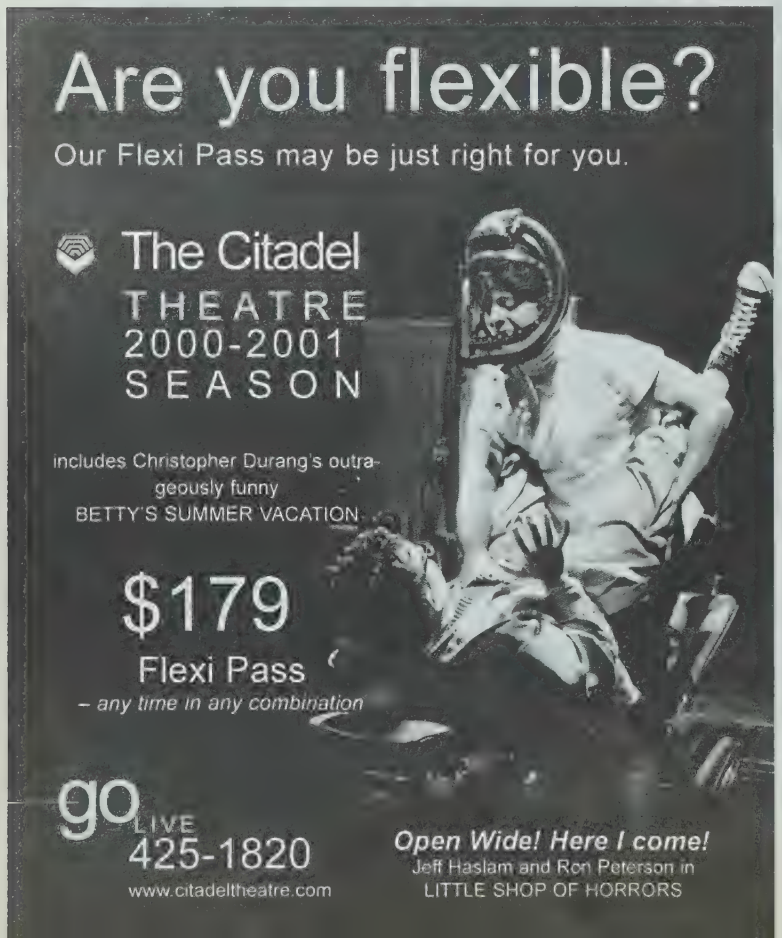
There will be a Prime Timers Wine 'n' Cheese Meet 'n' Greet from 6 - 8 pm at Gio's, 272 Sherbrook. Come out and socialize for Pride with those on the best years of their lives.

Sunday, June 18

Pride kicks into high gear and moves gaily forward with the Rally, Parade and Festival. The Rally begins at the Legislature, followed by the Parade to the final destination of Memorial Park, where the Festival will be held. Be sure to make your presence known at this pinnacle event of the week.

Winnipeg's Pride 2000 Moulin Rouge Cabaret Social will recreate the feel of the famous Parisian nightclub at the Pyramid. This fun-filled evening will include dance, theatre and live music—don't miss it!

Shake it up with Pride at the Pride 2000 Dance Social, begin held at the Rendezvous on Pride Week's final night. This year's theme is "A Homo Ho-Down" and the event is a must-attend for all proud citizens of Winnipeg.



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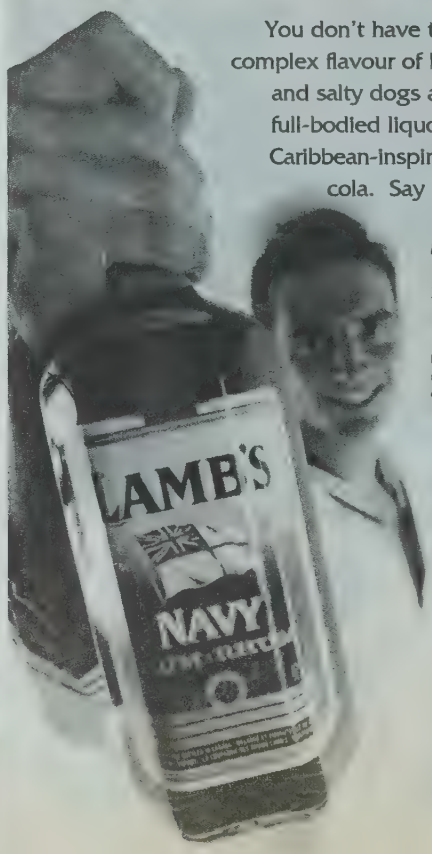

MUTINY

1 1/2 oz	Lamb's Navy Rum
2 dashes	bitters
1/2 oz	Dubonnet rouge
1	maraschino cherry

In a mixing glass half filled with ice cubes, combine the rum, Dubonnet and bitters. Stir well and strain into a cocktail glass. Garnish with the maraschino cherry.

Celebrating a Diverse Universe

CALGARY PRIDE 2000

Pride Parade
Sunday, June 11, 2000
Connaught School
1121-12 Ave. SW
12 noon – 1 pm

Departing from Connaught Community School at 1121 – 12 Ave. SW. East on 12 Ave., South on 8 St., West on 17 Ave., North on 11 St. End at Connaught Community School where the Street Fair is being held.

The entire route is approximately one hour long, filled with music, laughter, color, glamour, song and dance. A Community Showcase, so jump off the curb and join the Parade, you will love every second of it.

The Parade is sponsored by www.gaycalgary.com

Street Fair
Sunday, June 11, 2000
Connaught School 1121-12 Ave. SW
Admission: FREE
1pm – 4:30pm

The Parade will lead you right to the Street Fair. It is there you will be surrounded by all kinds of activities, sound, sun and fun. There will be an entertainment stage with non-stop live performances, a playground and bounce house for the kids and a dunk tank for the bigger kids. Just sit back and relax in the Money Pennies Beer Garden, there really won't be a better place to be than right here at the Street Fair.

Performances by: B.O.W. Band of Women, Belly Dancing Duo, Calgary Men's Chorus, Mississippi Steamboat, Rocky Mountain Singers, Salinger, Sean Martin, Mariette Sluyter and MJ McCann.

The BIG Pride Dance
Saturday, June 17, 2000
Max Bell Centre, 1221 Barlow Tr. SE
Admission: $20, Members $17
8 pm

Bigger shows, bigger sound, bigger lights. Over 2000 people are expected to dance and be dazzled by the lights and sound of Underground Productions. Go-go Dancers, Flag Dancers and Choreographed Dancers will be there to keep everyone dancing. Be sure to wrap up Pride Week at the BIG Pride Dance and Celebrate our Diverse Universe.

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Dave is an avid reader with a keen interest in ancient languages. He counts gymnastic tumbling and singing among his hobbies.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SIMON BURROUGHS

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HIV+: A personal story

AIDS CALGARY
awareness association

GLCSA

I asked a friend of mine to write about his experience as a gay, HIV+ man living in Calgary because I have never seen an article written from this perspective. Those people living with HIV are a part of our community that are often marginalized, even as we learn more about the virus and its effects. He has chosen to write his story anonymously, as even in the year 2000 he would face serious ramifications in his personal and professional life and possibly the lives of his loved ones if identified. Here is his story.

—Collin Smith

I have witnessed pleasant and sadly unpleasant reactions toward people who choose to disclose their status. I believe most bad reactions are often based in fear, ignorance and stereotype. Fear of a disease that we do not yet fully understand or control, ignorance created by not seeking or providing educational truths about HIV transmission/prevention and the continuing stereotype and stigma that has always encompassed HIV/AIDS.

When coming out as a gay man in 1984, AIDS information was limited, controversial and, at times, volatile. It was a time when AIDS was being identified as a "gay man's" disease. I remember most images being shown to the public then were those of emaciated "gay" men in the final stages of HIV infection. I know many still believe this image to be the true face of HIV/AIDS, even though great strides have been made by some to break this image and reflect the realities of HIV.

I can remember the response from family and friends in small town Alberta when I told them I was gay. "What about getting AIDS?" they would all say in one way or another. My response was always the same. "I'm not that stupid; I know how to protect myself." It is as sobering to recall those words now as it was when hearing I was HIV-positive.

My journey began at a local dance club on New Year's Eve in 1987. Indulging in a variety of stimulants, including alcohol, throughout the evening led to dropping some inhibitions and eventually meeting someone I had been interested in for some time. He was intelligent and attractive and proceeded to express his mutual interest in meeting me as well. The evening was one of impaired passion, little discussion and, quite honestly, great sex. Which, sadly to say, was the only benefit of the entire encounter. I awoke the next morning alone, (surprisingly not hung over) to discover my condoms and lubricant lying unused on my night stand. My heart and mind were suddenly racing back over the evening's events. There were no used condoms to be found in the trash so I started to worry for a couple of days. I eventually concluded he couldn't possibly have had AIDS because he didn't look like someone who was sick.

During the autumn of 1988 an eye problem resulted in a trip to my family doctor. I was subsequently scanned, poked, prodded, and injected with dyes. All test results came back as negative or inconclusive.

My doctor, puzzled by the series of test results, consulted with another professional. I can remember his questions to this day, "Have you had sex without a condom?", "Have you shared needles with anyone?", "Have you ever had a blood transfusion?" and, finally, "Are you gay?"

Then he asked if he could run an HIV antibody test. I asked him what kind of test it was and what the test would be looking for. He responded, "You may have contracted the virus that causes AIDS." He drew my blood sample for testing and we had to wait seven to ten days for the results to come back from the lab. The very next day, my eye problem cleared up without explanation and I was subsequently released from hospital. My only concern now was the HIV test conducted before my release.

I received a call from the doctor's office twelve days later asking that I come in to see him. I hadn't slept one night since taking the test and leaving the hospital. Everywhere I looked there were posters, news stories and magazine articles about AIDS. I became distracted and irritable at work and with friends. A few questioned my behaviour but I could not tell them what was happening. God, I could barely face it myself.

The doctor informed me that the test result had come back positive and that they were conducting the test again to confirm the results. I was stunned, regardless of my earlier efforts to prepare for bad news. The only question I could muster was "How long do I have?" His response of three to five years was an accurate assessment based on what physicians were witnessing with HIV/AIDS patients at the time.

I still cannot remember the drive home from the doctor's office that day. I was met at the door by my roommates who were disturbed by my appearance. I told them what had happened, that I did not want to talk about it and continued to my room. Another sleepless night passed—and I still had to deal with my mother in the morning. She knew an HIV test had been done and was routinely checking in to see if results were back. I chose to lie to her that day and kept that secret from my family for the next eight years. Internal shame and fear at being HIV+ led me to isolate myself and my feelings from even the closest of my friends and family.

I responded with classic denial and chose instead to just go on living life as best I could. I decided that I would return to work and when something happened I would deal with it then.

I did not return to SAC (Southern Alberta Clinic) for three years because I did not want to deal with anything related to my infection. Out of sight, out of mind was the way I looked at the situation. The reality was that in three years it never once left my thoughts. It was a lonely and isolated time for me: I knew of no one else with HIV. There was no one who could understand what I was going through, no one I could trust with my secret.

I began to deal with a great deal of loss over the next few years. I began to dwell on things I thought I would never have; sometimes forgetting about the things I did have. I would never have someone to love and call my partner and lover. Who would want to be with someone who had AIDS? I would never own my own business because insurance coverage, mortgages and loans would not be available. I felt everything was out of control with the exception of my job. It was the one thing I managed to keep control of and I believe it was instrumental in maintaining my sanity at the time.

I met a wonderful man in the third year and began dating, which would eventually progress into something more serious. I was now faced with the task of disclosing my status to him before I could allow the relationship to become more intimate. He had, earlier in our relationship, willingly offered to engage in an unsafe sexual act, a fact which disturbed me deeply. I asked him why he was willing to engage in unprotected sex when HIV was such a known threat. It surprised me that he was willing to risk his life without question. He said he thought he had to, or else I would probably dump him. I managed to explain risking his life to please someone else was crazy and he should never do anything he wasn't comfortable doing. We just went to sleep that night.

I had hoped to tell him I was positive myself but, unfortunately, the community rumour mill beat me to it. To my surprise he stayed with me and we had five years together before going our separate ways. We remain good friends and to this day he is HIV negative—proof you can have a full relationship and not transmit HIV to your partner.

• BULLETINS •

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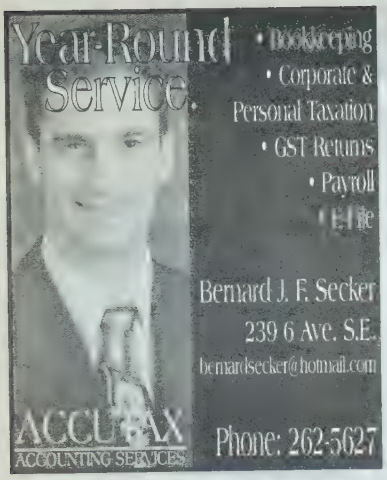

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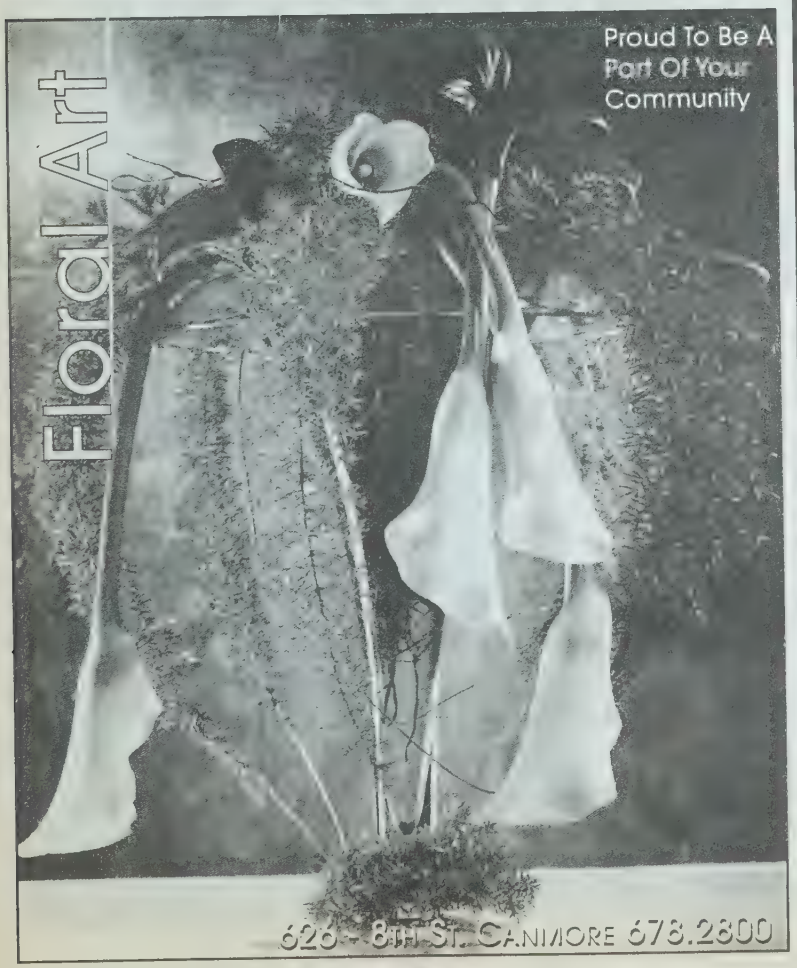

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E2K

One proud Canadian

by John Coulbourn

As a child—in a time that feels increasingly longer ago, in a land that seems further and further away—I would gobble down Easter eggs and open Christmas presents without much thought.

If there was a single notion of how, in a deeper context, those chocolate eggs represented rebirth or those tinselled gifts were given in emulation of the gifts legend tells us were brought to the Christ child by the Magi, it certainly didn't linger.

I'm older now, and 'though I may not be a lot wiser, I'm trying, dammit.

So, when Pride Week rolls around, I try to see it as something more than merely 168 hours of potential partying—a seven day binge that, frankly, at my age, would surely require a minimum seven week window of recovery.

Now, let me be clear, lest some sensitive soul interpret the aforementioned remarks as judgemental. I see nothing whatsoever wrong with celebrating Pride Week in a state of joyous bliss, even sensual abandon.

As long as we remember what it is we are celebrating, that is.

And that's pride—one word that covers all those things of which we are justifiably proud and, on the other hand, the areas that could use a bit of work.

As a usually proud Canadian, I'm not particularly proud of my country and my countrymen for ignoring the whole issue of gay rights for as long as it has.

Certainly, recent developments have put us in in the vanguard of societal change but, after wooing the gay and gay-positive electorate with promises of change for years, our politicians moved only after the courts held a gun to their heads.

I'd be a lot prouder of our politicians if they'd acted on their promises because it was the right thing to do and not merely because they'd come to a point where there was simply no other option.

Still, I'm proud to be part of an extended gay community that never gave up the battle, that never turned down the heat, that never ducked the spotlight or folded its tent until the battle was done.

As a journalist, I've got a different take on freedom of speech than most, perhaps, and I'm not terribly proud of the fact that in a recent ruling the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council slapped Dr. Laura Schlessinger silly for her hateful remarks about gays and lesbians.

I believe that a freedom of speech that allows people to say only those things with which we agree is really no freedom of speech at all.

What Schlesinger says may be ugly, unkind, hurtful, unscientific and false, but muzzling her in this way only elevates her to victimhood to her sick-minded followers.

It won't change the way she or any of her followers think. It will simply make them more careful about saying it in public—and I, for one, have always appreciated a visible enemy over an invisible one.

But I am proud of the gay organizations who have lobbied potential advertisers and convinced them to disassociate themselves from Dr. Laura's planned move to television. They realize that if people of her stripe choose to exercise their freedom of speech in a fashion like this, then we can put them in their place by creatively exercising ours.

I'm not particularly proud of all the silly internecine quibbling that's been going on in the gay community about

what Bill C-23 means to us and our lifestyle. Those of us who choose to live in committed relationships aren't selling out to heterosexual standards and—okay, okay—those who choose a more adventuresome approach aren't stuck in some sort of perpetual adolescence. So, enough of the name-calling.

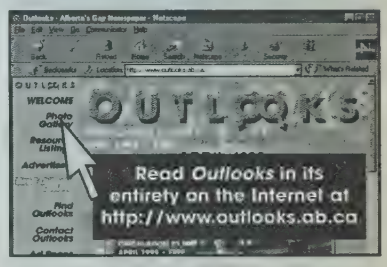
But I am proud that we are a community that can withstand our little spats, and still come together in a spirit of shared joy and community for at least one week of the year.

I'm not proud of the fact that I frequently lose patience with the lack of understanding of the gay community by the broader world, and I'm even less proud of the fact that I occasionally lose patience with various factions of the gay community too, and for many of the same reasons.

I'm not proud of my own flaws—the things that keep me from being a perfect human, a perfect partner, a perfect friend.

But I am proud of the fact that most days, like this community of ours, I try.

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.



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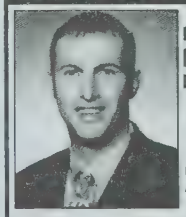

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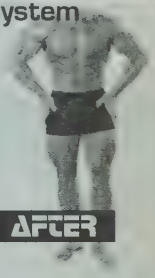

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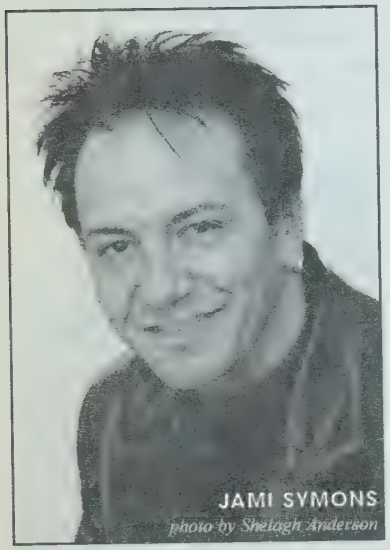
GAY MEN IN BUSINESS

A hairy schedule



JAMI SYMONS
photo by Shelagh Anderson

by Bill Brooks

It's a case of no rest for the talented: Santa Barbara one week, New York the next. Working double digit hours on a daily basis. Co-ownership in one of Calgary's most successful salons.

Such is the fast and full life of Kosmetikos' Jami Symons. In an exclusive interview, *Outlooks* associate publisher Bill Brooks caught up with Symons at his shop.

Outlooks: You obviously keep a very hectic schedule. How did you get to where you are?

Symons: I've been a hair stylist for many years. I came to Calgary (from Moose Jaw, Sask.) in 1984 and really haven't looked back since. I joined Kosmetikos three years ago—at the time, it [Kosmetikos] was only into aesthetics, so when I came on board, I brought the hair element into play. The travel part of my life comes from my eight-year association with AG Professional Hair Care. I'm the Artistic Leader for North America.

Outlooks: What does that entail?

Symons: I teach hairdressers from all over the world. I update them on the latest products, hair cutting techniques, hair styling and the like.

Outlooks: Where do you learn what's hot and new?

Symons: I've been all over the place from Sebastian in Los Angeles to Sassoons in London, England. And I'm leaving for New York to take a masters program at Jingles International. The opportunity to go to New York is through AG, which is very exciting. They're making a sizable investment in me by putting me through the program.

Outlooks: Where would you like to be five years from now?

Symons: I would like to open up an advanced academy here in Calgary—advanced cutting, colouring, makeup and so on. There are only two advanced academies in Canada—one in Toronto and one in Vancouver.

Outlooks: What's the best part of being a hairdresser and, conversely, what's the worst part?

Symons: The best part is constantly meeting new people—it's never boring. And the worst part, of course, is those difficult clients.

Outlooks: Okay, describe a dream client and then a client from hell.

Symons: A dream client is someone who comes in with total faith in my expertise and just lets me do it. The client from hell is the one that questions every little move you make and gives you more information than you need. Or the sixty-year-old who comes in with a picture of Britney Spears and says "Make me look like this." I feel like saying "Honey, this is a comb—not a wand."

Outlooks: You've no doubt seen *Vanity Fair*'s Proust Questionnaire? What say we do our own version?

Symons: Can I be out there?

Outlooks: Just be yourself. Here we go. What is it you most like about who you are?

Symons: My ability to start up a conversation with anyone.

Outlooks: What is it you most dislike?

Symons: My ability to start up a conversation with anyone.

Outlooks: Which person, alive or dead, do you most admire?

Symons: That guy who invented Post-It Notes.

DAY-TO-DAY HAIR-WEAR

ONE OF SYMONS' FLIGHTS OF FANCY

Outlooks: Which word or phrases do you most overuse?

Symons: Um... "Um!"

Outlooks: Boxers, briefs, bikini or bare?

Symons: Honey, you don't have 'thong' in there!

Outlooks: If you were to come back in another life, what or who would it be?

Symons: Jessica Rabbit.

Outlooks: If you could boff anyone—alive or dead—who would it be?

Symons: Jeff Stryker for the alive one and Joey Stefano for the dead one.

Outlooks: What is your greatest extravagance?

Symons: Shoes.

Outlooks: What is your most treasured possession?

Symons: My Mychael Maier drawing.

Outlooks: What trait or characteristic is highly over-rated?

Symons: Looks.

Outlooks: Finally, how would you like to be remembered?

Symons: For my effervescent personality. [Laughs.]

Kosmetikos is located on the second floor at 1134-8th Avenue S.W. The shop offers full service skin care, massage, make-up, nails and hair.

HOROSCOPE

by Charlene Lichtenstein

It's June, dear friends, which can only mean one thing: Pride Month. The planets are going all out for us as the optimistic Sun, Mars (energy) and Venus (love) 'trine' surprising Uranus and romantic Neptune. The planets will be delivering a case of sparkling love and bubbling celebration! Drink heartily! Be proud, be wise, be smart... But don't behave.

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Live and learn, dear queer Ram. Sometimes a little sweet talk has a way of moving mountains or causing earthquake. This Pride Month will provide you with an extra bonus in the gab department courtesy of the Sun, Mars and Venus. So rather than blow hot air—or even kisses—blast out a manifesto in any form possible. Don't forget to say "pretty please with sugar on top."

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Gay Bulls love to spend, spend, spend and Pride month will be no exception. The planets will reward you with cash to splash before the 17th, courtesy of a possible unexpected lump-sum payment at work. Who said that you weren't well endowed?! But be discreet, hon; crass nouveau displays will not go over well with new acquaintances. And you *do* want to meet and greet now, don't you?

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Zesty gay Twins will surprise themselves this Pride Month when their careful, calculated actions produce far reaching, impactful results. This is the time to polish your act and join a road company. Who knows what delightful surprises will await you in far corners of the globe? Take it to the limit, baby: you have until the 22nd to set things queer. After that it's money, money, honey. Sigh!

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Wild, woolly daydreams can lead to true lust for any proud Crab who lets their imagination run amok. Dig deep and dirty into the murky psychological depths to discover the true lavender you. It's all out or bust, darling. Just don't wear your hot pink chaps to work—professional surprises are best met in a something a little less draughty. Unless, of course, some bosses like it that way...

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

It may be a choice between friends or partners. Can this prideful month satisfy two equally demanding sides? Proud Leos will probably gravitate to compadres in early June, hoping that partners will go along for the ride. But you'll soon realize, as the planets move into Cancer after the 17th, that your heart lies elsewhere. I predict that in late June, you'll be one happy house cub.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Gay Virgos will have to admit that this Pride Month brings a jackpot bounty for all past hard work. Surprising advances will be made from unusual projects. Make it all pay off early in the month before a bevy of planets inch into Cancer and turn your thoughts on party-mode. Oh, what the heck! Grab a few pals and take it to the streets. Don't forget to hoist your pride flag!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

I can't help but think of Libras as the leaders of the Pride parade. This June will be no exception, unless of course they get sidetracked at the nearest party or bar. Proud Libras will turn on the charm and attract a bevy of fans and followers. My crystal ball sees an exotic foreigner in a delicious outfit, ready to be eaten. You are who you eat—or something like that!

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

Queer Scorps will find that lovers provide them the impetus and incentive to open up and out to family members. This Pride Month, resolve to never let anyone rain on your gay parade. I always say that life is far too short to compromise and defer to others' values. Dramatic transformations are possible if you are willing to take up the banner. You will not carry it alone.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Relationships will become the be-all and end-all for all gay Archers this Pride Month. Partners will have a way of transforming how you appear to others either by suggesting some much-needed style changes or providing you with that confident spring in your step that can beat down the world. Make your mark, but share the glory: they say two heads are better than one and I must agree.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Serious gay Capricorns will have their work cut out for them this month. Be prepared to be the power behind the throne this Pride Month, as what needs to be done will wind up landing on *your* plate. Get involved in one of our charitable causes; the task may seem daunting but will eventually transform you. Take heart, dear friend, even a proud tribe needs an administrative arm.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Aqueerians are not the dreamiest or creamiest of the signs, but they sure know how to pour on the charm when they are inspired. Do I smell inspiration in the air? Make sure that this Pride Month comes in hot, heavy and lusty. There are almost too many planets spicing up your sexuality. Well, I guess there can never be too much of a good thing...

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

It's hard to imagine a more creative individual than rainbow Fish this Pride Month. Will it be all those planets heating up your best partying instincts mid-month or delusional Neptune and lucky Jupiter blasting open your closet? If underwear comes flying out (and off) or if most nights you've tested the limits of your consumption, chalk it up to being out loud proud. No apologies!

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GLCSA

Gay & Lesbian Community Services Association

GLCSA new Summer hrs starting June 8th peer support services Monday to Thursday 6:30p.m. to 9:00p.m. Our Coordinator will be available Monday to Thursday 3:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. and Fridays 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.

Expressions Art Show & Auction, Saturday June 24, 8:00p.m, The Pumphouse Theater, 2140 Pumphouse Ave., S.W., tickets $15.00 advance $20.00 door contact GLCSA 234-8973.

The "Men's Drop-in" meets every Wednesday 7:00 p.m. upstairs at Money Pennies, 1742 10th Ave. S.W. The group "Inside out" for youth between 16 and 25 meets every Monday 7:00 p.m., common room, old Y on 12 Ave., S.W.

If you are interested in volunteering with GLCSA or have an event that you would like posted on our events calendar please call us at 234-8973.

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Dear Freddy...

Dear Freddy,

I've been dating this guy for a while and it's going great except for one thing. I know I'm the younger one of us (26) but he won't tell me how old he is. Should this matter? How can I tell his age without bugging him?

C.G., Calgary

Dear C.G.

It doesn't matter. It shouldn't matter. And it will not matter at all if you are both happy with each other. However, if you have some hang-ups and are still curious (remember what did that poor old pussy in), then here are a few key details to remember:

A. Things change as gentlemen get older, such as hair growth in places where there was none before. If your paramour is sporting nose hair that makes him look like John Travolta in *Battlefield: Earth*, then there's a good chance he's over twenty-five (and none too handy with the scissors, if you ask me).

B. Gravity begins to win the battle (but not the war, thanks to capable surgeons) in the thirty-something years. When you look at your boyfriend's nude body, do you think the best place to put his testicles is in a pair of briefs or tucked into the tops of his socks? If you say 'yes' to the latter, chances are he was not born in the same year you were.

C. If you are a young man with a prime, grade-A libido and he wants to "get nasty" more often than you do then he is *definitely* your senior. It is a well-documented fact that, when older men (even slightly so) find younger men to go out with, they're all over them like Rush Limbaugh at a Sizzler buffet. Enjoy this, if it's the case. In four years I'll be writing these pointers about *you*.

Hope this helps,
Fred

Dear Freddy,

I have a problem that could be quite an embarrassment to me if something isn't done about it. I'm finding that when I've finished urinating—like, totally finished—I still manage to dribble a bit in my underwear. Do you have any ideas about what could be wrong?

Down in the Damps

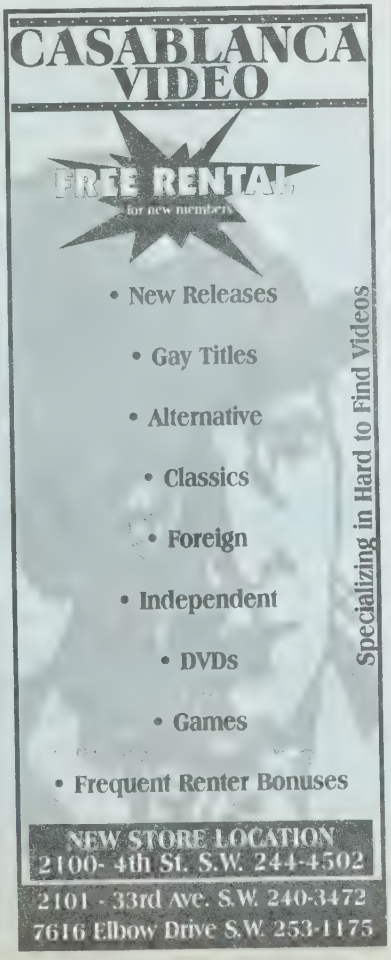
Dear Down,

My dear, I have many, many ideas—but few of them involve thinking of your leaky weenie for more than a few brief seconds. Consider this bit of wisdom from obedience school: no matter how hard you shake, no matter how hard you dance, the last little drop seems to fall in your pants. Everyone relates to this to some extent. However, if your skivvies could be renamed the Calvin Klein Rainforest then there might be something else at hand. Consider this: you put your left hand in, you take your left hand out, you put your left hand in and you shake it all about. You do the hokey-pokey and... then you wad up a small forest's worth of toilet paper, pop it in your undies and go see a doctor. Please, for everyone's sake...

Cheers, F.

Write to me, dears!

All letters become the property of *Outlooks* and are subject to editing. Write to: Dear Freddy, c/o Outlooks, Box 439, Suite 100, 1039 17th Ave. S.W. Calgary, AB T2T 0B2, or e-mail to outlooks@cadvision.com



REVIEWS

WHITNEY HOUSTON
WHITNEY: THE GREATEST HITS
reviewed by David Crosson

First of all, let me make it clear that I would rather be seen purchasing Depends® Sanitary Undergarments and an armload of kiddie-porn than be seen buying a Whitney Houston album. That's why I was so glad to see a copy of *Whitney: The Greatest Hits* hit my desk for review purposes, away from prying eyes. I'd also like to make clear the fact that I respect Houston's voice and have even been known, on occasion, to actually move my head in time to her music. Okay, I *love* her—cat's out of the bag and, boy, am I blushing (just a sucker for a diva, I guess...).

With the recent flurry of media-chat involving rumours of substance abuse and bizarre behaviour, *The Greatest Hits* could not have come at a better time (PR conspiracy theories abound on this particular issue). And with a stunning "comeback" performance on the recent *25 Years of No. 1 Hits: Arista Records Anniversary Celebration*, Miss Houston has definitely re-staked her territory as a giant in the music industry.

From start to finish (two discs) this CD is hot, hot, hot. It's as if someone poured a bottle of habañero sauce down Whitney's throat while she was holding that long from I Will Always Love You and she took off like the Tasmanian Devil from Bugs Bunny.

Far from being a total re-hash collection of cuts from previous albums, *Whitney: The Greatest Hits* is a comfortable blend of old and new. Disc One—"Cool Down"—is dedicated to some of the songs that made Houston a mega-star, all presented in their original state. On Disc Two—"Throw Down"—the 'big sound' angle is worked for all it's worth, employing the talents of such industry mix-masters as Hex Hector, Thunderpuss, Cliviles & Cole and Junior Vasquez. The results are, for the most, fresh and fierce—although some die-hard fans may have trouble with the musical gymnastics involved when someone like Hex Hector gets hold of, say, I Will Always Love You. It goes without saying that La Houston lifts her delicate foot up and plants a firm kick in the ass of the assembled material.

With persistent rumours that Whitney may be a lesbian, I found it interesting that producers chose a cover image showing how handy she is with power tools when hanging her platinum albums. Drag queens will no doubt be thrilled to see Houston ascending a step-ladder in zebra-striped, four inch Candies heels. I'm also quite certain that her pink-fur-and-python ensemble in the liner notes will be widely adopted in Pride parades across the country this summer. That the music would follow at said celebrations is unquestionable; nothing gets a float rolling more gaily forward than a disco re-mix from a fierce ruling diva. *Whitney: The Greatest Hits* is right, and it's more than okay—it's a great addition to any fan's (admitted or otherwise) CD collection.

Ratz Are Nice (PSP) by Lawrence Ytzhak Braithwaite
reviewed by David Crosson

There are challenging reads and then there are *challenging* reads. Lawrence Ytzhak Braithwaite's *Ratz Are Nice (PSP)* easily attains the latter designation. Not only is the subject matter beyond the ken of the average reader, the way in which the material is presented could prove daunting for even the most hardcore of literary curiosity-seekers.

This is not to say, however, that this novel should be passed over in favour of "easier" fare. Quite the contrary: perseverance pays off for those who are willing to trust Braithwaite and make the journey.

And what a journey it is. *Ratz* is essentially a collection of experiences relayed from the perspective of the lead character Edison, a black skinhead, as he makes his way through the cultural mire of a sub-society culled from Jamaican Rudeboy and North American Skinhead traditions. Edison's unique stream of consciousness flows fast and furious from page to page, blurring the lines of sexuality, ethnicity, reality and moral code. Needless to say, it is more than a little disconcerting.

It is Braithwaite's willingness to cut the reader loose into chaos and disorientation that sets him apart from other anarchic "conceptual" writers. There is no sense of posturing or gratuitous quirkiness in this author's work; every word on every page is vital to the connection of scattered dots that make up each character's outlook on the world.

Ratz Are Nice (PSP) is a prime example of deconstructionism in language, structure, spelling and punctuation. Braithwaite's form of anti-communication becomes hyper-communicative by immersing the reader totally in the trappings and texture of Edison's world. Ideas and imagery flash up from the page in a kind of warp-speed montage. Information is forced upon the reader at such a rapid rate that there is little, if any, time to process it; it is more likely absorbed in its rawest—and most honest—state.

Despite its brevity (155 pages plus an extensive glossary of terms) *Ratz Are Nice (PSP)* is an exhausting read. It is also a cunningly crafted and fascinating piece of experimental fiction—and well worth the effort.

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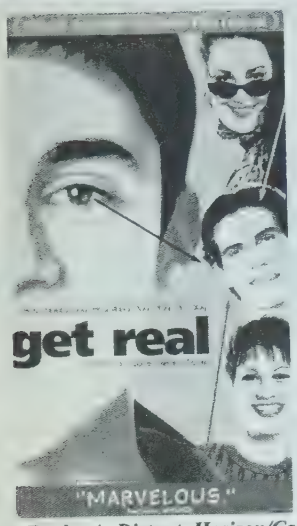

Get Real*: A Distant Horizon/Graphite film. Directed by Simon Shore. Screenplay by Patrick Wilde. Starring Ben Silverstone, Brad Gorton and Charlotte Brittain.*

reviewed by David Crosson

It's becoming abundantly clear, of late, that Great Britain is leading the pack in what we loosely describe as "gay cinema." Unlike many Hollywood films that play too hard for laughs or jerk too hard for tears, for the most part the Brits are content to create characters and tell stories, allowing emotions to play out on an individual basis with viewers.

Perhaps part of the problem can be attributed to the fact that Hollywood is much more comfortable portraying violence than sexuality, and feel that the latter subject requires a greater degree of cinematic "hand-holding".

An excellent example of the UK's confident ease onscreen is the recent release *Get Real*, a mid-size flick about the coming out (or not) process as it affects two young men growing up in Basingstoke.

Steve (Ben Silverstone, who looks a bit like the love-child of Roseanna Arquette and Mr. Bean) is becoming increasingly aware of new urges—particularly in respect to John (the tasty Brad Gorton), big man on campus and star runner on the school track team. Aided and abetted by Linda, the big, sweet biscuit of a girl-next-door (Charlotte Brittain), Steve begins to explore his newfound feelings. And, queerly enough, it turns out that the object of his affection is experiencing a bit of the same thing himself.

The writers and director very wisely build to Steve and John's actual connection from a disastrously impromptu "first date" to their initial and "incriminating" first kiss. Though worlds away from the edgier milieu of BBC's *Queer As Folk*, *Get Real* has much in common with it. There is a tangible sense of tension and a deft handling of the subject matter that makes it all the more real. I found myself alternating between laughter and skillfully encouraged goosebumps thanks to a brilliant script and the capable directorial hand of Simon Shore.

Get Real is full of the insecurities, complications and betrayals common to young love, and handily captures the giddy thrill of a clandestine affair. Towards the film's end, it becomes clear that cloak-and-dagger is all well and good until the cloak smothers and the dagger stabs. Thankfully, *Get Real*'s sense of restraint carries through to the bitter (sweet) end, opting for a more uncomfortable (read: realistic) finalé than the pat Hollywood hearts-and-flowers routine. This little gem was chosen as an official selection at the Sundance Film Festival, and with good reason. If *Get Real* has not yet had a well-deserved turn through your VCR, I highly recommend you give it a shot.

On an entirely different plain, though no less well done, is another Anglo release entitled *Boyfriends*. This flick has been widely touted (it's even on the flip-side of the box) as a British *Love! Valor! Compassion!* Whoa, nellies, stop right there. Aside from the fact that it focuses on a group of gay men who nip out into the country for a bit of R & R (revelry and revelation), this UK export has little to do with its near-unwatchable U.S. counterpart.

It would be both pointless and frustrating to even begin to describe the widely zigzagging plotlines and relationships involved in this movie. *Boyfriends* has a touch of Agatha Christie to it—not so much a "whodunnit?" as "who's doing it?", a sexual Rubik's cube of partnering that holds more than a few surprises.

As with *Get Real*, *Boyfriends* is a masterful blend of plot and character, seamlessly joined to prevent the appearance of one leading the other.

One figure stands out in this regard, operating as both character and commentator throughout. Much like a Shakespearean fool, the young, uneducated Cockney Adam sees things for what they are in this group of "well-adjusted homosexual men" (this description courtesy of Will, Adam's thirtysomething "date"). Despite Adam's lack of polish ("There are two 't"s in the word 'settee' and he doesn't use one of them" a character remarks about the cocky Cockney) he is the only one of the group to recognize how messed up everyone is—and moved to comment on it.

"You've all got problems and you're all quite old," he says at one point, "and they're not sorted. It's really quite sad."

Sad, perhaps, but not far off the mark in many cases. There has been a tendency (again, particularly in recent American films) to put the *überhomo* on screen, a gay Everyman who handles life's difficulties with aplomb and the odd glib remark.

True, *Boyfriends* is at times a rather bleak portrayal of the foibles and pitfalls involved in gay relationships but, then again, isn't it preferable to hold a mirror up to the human weaknesses that we all share, rather than create distorted funhouse caricatures designed to somehow curry favour with the *hoi polloi*? I, for one, think that honesty is the best policy in these cases, although I know that I do not an cannot speak for everyone. Why not rent *Boyfriends* for yourself and see what conclusions you come to?

Boyfriends*: Written, produced and directed by Neil Hunter and Tom Hunsinger. Starring James Dreyfus, Marks Sands, Michael Urwin, Andrew Abelson, David Coffey, Darren Petrucci and Michael McGrath.*

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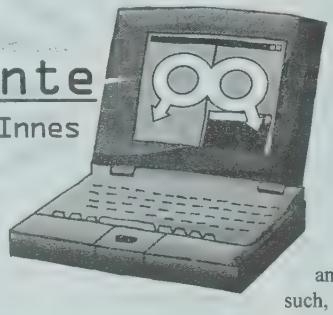
by Darren McInnes



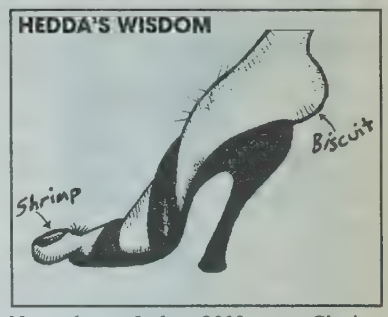
Jack Fritscher, author, photographer and offbeat pornographer, has always seemed an odd duck. And that's no doubt why I enjoy his work so much. As one of the founders of the legendary *Drummer* magazine, Fritscher brought quality smut to the forefront of gay culture. At www.jackfritscher.com, the cuddly crank reviews the illustrious history of the leather bible, though he is reluctant to admit that in the past ten years the publication has been anything but relevant. While browsing his site, you might also consider picking up an autographed copy of his Mapplethorpe biography, *Assault With a Deadly Camera*; arguably the most accurate portrait of the controversial photographer's life. Elsewhere, read about his twisty friendships with various eccentrics including bodybuilder Lisa Lyon, Robert Opel (who famously streaked behind Liz and David Niven at the '74 Academy Awards), and bless-his-dirty-little XXX heart, JD Slater (sigh).

I expected nothing but the best from www.hedda.com, the sunny and colorful electronic home of personality par excellence, Hedda Lettuce. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough meat on them digital bones to keep me chewing. She *is* off to a delightful start, however, surrounded as she is by sinfully pink feathers (and we all know pink is the color this summer). I particularly enjoyed the visual of her morphing into the monitor wallpaper a la *Terminator*. Given the click n' go options of Lettuce Dish (the Advice Column), Lettuce Look (photos, natch), I would recommend Lettuce Draw, where Hedda provides a pictorial tutorial on "biscuits" and "shrimps" as well as the hilariously spooky "Cataract Collection" (the Upper East Side shopping set on acid). In Lettuce Read, there is also a must-read story on Hedda's audition for the recent bomb, *Flawless*. Her digs at Joel Schumacher and Kirstie Alley are not to be missed.

There's no escaping jock culture, and after recovering from the torment of Junior High Phys-Ed, who would want to? Now that you have a pumped-up physique, all that locker room talk, fanny patting and towel snapping doesn't seem so emotionally crippling after all! Not to mention the fantasy of dropping that damn bar of soap in the shower over and over. And over and... Anyway, www.gaygames.org is short on visuals and long on verbiage. It is, of course, the website home of the ongoing "gay Olympics." Drop in and find out the latest developments from the annual meeting held in Berlin (yawn). My heart fluttered slightly when I saw the words "Wrestlers Without Borders" and mistook it for "Wrestlers Without Singlets" but, alas, dyslexia had once again gotten the best of me. However, it was encouraging to read that, for the first time, there were representatives at the meeting from Croatia, Slovenia, Poland, Russia, Latvia and the Czech Republic—this will surely boost the population of tempting gymnasts.

While on the subject of athletic endeavors, if you belong to today's jet-setting gay-party set, get yourself into rehab. Oh please, like I would ever *really* mean that.

Some of the most ardent circuit queens are also the most anal-retentive. Okay, they all are! As such, they, like yourself, should plan well in advance by dropping into www.sydney2002.org.au/index2.html, the official home of the next Gay Games. It is here where you can find out which events will be featured at the upcoming spandex-fest. Oddly, fisting has still not been added to the roster. You can even register as an athlete if you so desire—those medals will be magnets if you want to get laid, after all. Opening Ceremonies:



November 2nd, 2002. Closing Ceremonies: November 9th, 2002. Did I mention that Sydney is like LA, but down-under?

Hmm, not sure if they should put that on any brochures.

Queer travelers rejoice! Someone finally realized that gay men and women get around... *a lot*. Check out www.bures.com/gtc, which lets you search for accommodation exchanges with pink people all over this ever-shrinking globe. A yearly membership fee is required if you want to respond to postings or retrieve responses to your inquiries, but the payoff is in the hotel bill. As in, there is none! I was particularly tickled by the existing postings, including the twenty-one year old Hispanic who is spending New Year's 2000 in Switzerland and spends three hours in the gym every day (two of

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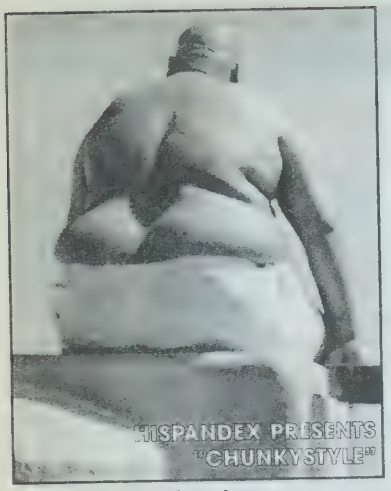


which are devoted to the steamroom, no doubt). According to the listing, he needs "a host in All Over." All Over, hmm, isn't that the little burg next to Hanover? Under creepy, there is the thirtysomething couple in Phoenix who welcome young, single travelers to camp out at their high-rise luxury condo which has "nude sunbathing on the balcony." Smells like a Bret Easton Ellis novel to me.

Are you also disappointed that *Another World* got unceremoniously yanked from daytime television? Well, there's a new bed-hopping program in town and it's called Forever and a Day (**hometown.aol.com/lakeviewcityhall/forever.html**), the gay web soap set in the fictional town of Lakeview, Illinois (it's like Bay City, but with more fag bars). Start by reviewing the massive cast of characters and a handy map of this homo-heavy town. Gay characters include "Christian Chase", a "model and student at Howe University." Apparently he just came out to himself but is reluctant to make his queerness public knowledge... Well, *there's* an original storyline. He also has the body of a Greek statue—another shocking development. Somewhat more interesting is "Scott: super-jock studmuffin, frat-boy who likes his beer, football and girls... or is it guys?" My money is on guys. I am, however, all over the cheesy dialogue. It makes *Valley of the Dolls* sound like Tolstoy:

(In Paris... can't you tell from 'zee accent?')

JEAN-LUIS: You are zee big baby.

ATLIN: Oh, I am, am I?

JEAN-LUIS: Oui.

Jean-Luis passionately kisses Atlin. He starts chuckling.

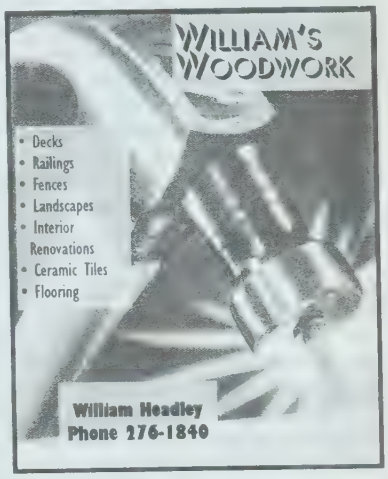
JEAN-LUIS: Zat tickles. Is zat your vibrator?

Atlin rolls her eyes, pulls out her cell phone from her pocket.

ATLIN: My vibrator's at home. You can use it while I'm gone, if you'd like.

You get the picture.

If you just can't get enough of the recent rash of swimsuit editions in gay rags, I strongly recommend Hispandex at **www.members.tripod.com/~hispandex**. With a hidden camera at Coney Island and various other whale watching points of interest, the terribly naughty folks behind this webilicious destination discover men in all their loveliness and less-than-loveliness. Galleries include the relatively stimulating "Alphamales" and "dynamic groups," but my personal favorites were "chunkystyle" and "bizarre and/or poetic." Be prepared for a white-knuckled ride over the digital sea, boys. Spewing chunks is not out of the realm of possibility.



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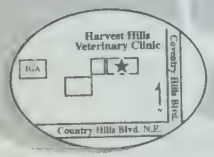

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A tireless fundraiser

by Norm Sacuta

Mention the name Lloyd Gobeil in Edmonton's gay scene and you're likely to receive blank stares in return. But dress that same Lloyd Gobeil in a pair of cow-rimmed glasses, a spotted cow-hide dress, and listen as he shouts "bitch" across a bar at some unsuspecting patron, and there won't be many who don't know exactly what you're on about.

What we're on about is Beverly Crest, former Empress XI, Boots-and-Saddle icon and fundraiser extraordinaire for Kairos House, the AIDS hospice in Edmonton. Beverly (whose name is taken from a hotel in Edmonton's working-class east end) first arrived in the city twenty-seven years ago from Saskatoon, and came out of the closet, so she says, the very year the Roost opened its doors.

Now a sexagenarian—Gobeil turned 60 on May 14—Beverly Crest takes life as it comes. She's survived two heart attacks ten years apart (in 1983 and 1993) that have left her on disability, and those experiences have given her a certain insight into other people's health and well-being. *Outlooks* spoke with Beverly—or Lloyd—about the community, fundraising and life in the Big Onion.

Outlooks: So tell me, how did you get the name Beverly Crest?

Gobeil: Well, that goes back years ago now, at Flashback—I started doing a few shows at the Roost—and Lulu LaRue and Twiggy said to me "Well, how about Beverly Crest?" as a name, and I said, "Oh, no, no, *no!*" But, well, it stuck. I had no choice.

Outlooks: Have you ever been to the Beverly Crest?

Gobeil: The hotel? Yes, when I first moved here I lived across the street from it... Way back.

Outlooks: And Twiggy and Lulu knew that?

Gobeil: No, not at all. They didn't know I lived near there.

Outlooks: Really? So it was happenstance? Something cosmic that led them to suggest it?

Gobeil: Yeah, oh yeah.

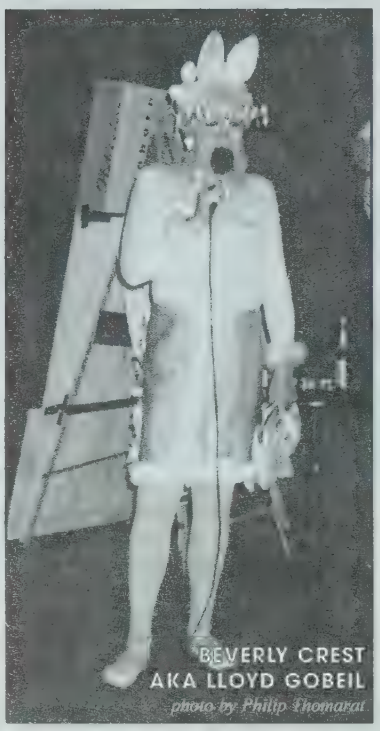
Outlooks: Tell me a bit about your history in Edmonton, then. When did you first start doing shows?

Gobeil: Oh god. I have Alzheimer's so I don't know if I can remember that far back! I did hit sixty, you know. Yesterday.

Outlooks: Congratulations!

Gobeil: Thanks. I can't remember the first time, actually. I know it was Twiggy who first put me on stage. I didn't have the nerve to get on—I'd never been on stage before—and, I mean, *in a dress!* Give me a break. But from then on, I just rolled right in.

Outlooks: And have you performed



BEVERLY CREST
AKA LLOYD GOBEIL
photo by Philip Thomarat

outside the city over the years, or just Edmonton?

Gobeil: No—well, actually Vancouver's ball I did once, as well as Bellingham, Washington, back when I was Empress XI.

Outlooks: What made you decide to run for Empress back in the '80s?

Gobeil: Well, I think it had a lot to do with being part of the gay community. Empresses came out of Flashback only, originally, but I was the first empress to include all three clubs in fundraising. That was back in—oh, now we're going on to Empress XXV—so that was fourteen years ago!

Outlooks: And was it a close race?

Gobeil: Oh, yes! I ran against one of the better performers in Edmonton the year I won, Ora Fice, and I had lost the year before. But I said, "Well, I might as well keep going," and it paid off. What did I have to lose? And it's because of being Empress that I got into fundraisers. There are people a lot worse off than I am. And Kairos House is just about the best thing to fundraise for.

Outlooks: Well, let's talk about Kairos House, then. When did you first start doing fundraising for them?

Gobeil: This is my fourth year, and I do two shows a year. Spring and Fall. Both at Boots.

Outlooks: And what made you decide to do this?

Gobeil: Well, it was something to do, actually! [Laughs.] You know, having twenty-four hours a day with nothing to do, you go nuts. Which I almost did, literally. Oh, I don't know if I should really go on with this! [Laughs.] Anyway...

Outlooks: How much money have you raised for Kairos House so far?

Gobeil: Over ten grand.

Outlooks: Fantastic. My moles tell me that you've even had a letter of thanks from a priest at Catholic Social Services for your efforts.

Gobeil: They thanked me for everything I've done and gave me a list of all the shows over the years, plus the amount raised by each show, then said what they've done with the money.

Outlooks: So what goes on at these shows, anyway?

Gobeil: Well, what we have is some entertainment, female impersonators, and we do games like ring toss, bean-bag toss, whatever it takes to get a dollar off somebody! And I also have prizes. I go to restaurants and salons, and they've been great about giving gift certificates—anywhere from five to sixty-five dollars. The last fundraiser I had 104 prizes to give away, which went well. I actually ended up one prize short. Too many people were making the bean-bag toss. [Laughs.] Anyway, that show raised two grand!

Outlooks: So if you've been involved in the gay community in this city for the past twenty-seven years, what have you noticed about it? How has it changed?

Gobeil: I don't know if it's really changed any, at all. People certainly have. But as far as the community... it's perhaps not as close as it used to be.

Outlooks: Is that because the city is just so much bigger now?

Gobeil: Yes, probably. And attitudes do change. For better or worse.

Outlooks: One final question: How is it you came to be associated with cows, particularly Holsteins?

Gobeil: I believe the bartenders here [at Boots] started that. They closed that one side of the bar and put a cow figure up for the fundraiser and it sort of stuck. And then at the Black and White Event a few years ago I wore a cow outfit I had made. My hair was white, I had the horns and the hair, and glasses with cows on it-a lot of people asked if they could wear the glasses. Oh, I had a blast that night.

The next Beverly Crest Kairos House fundraiser will take place at Boots and Saddle on Saturday, September 16th.

LA ROMANÉE, CHARMES-CHAMBERTIN, ECHÉZEAUX, CLOS DE VOUGEOT, CLOS DE LA ROCHE, WE HAVE PINOT NOIRS WITH PEDIGREE

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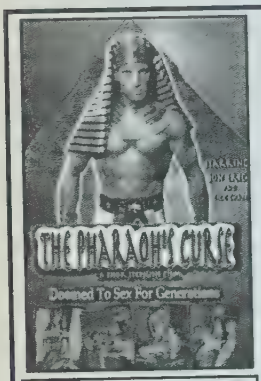


THE PHARAOH'S CURSE

From: *Men of Odyssey*

Featuring: *Jon Eric, Rick Chase, Jeremy Tucker, Anthony Cox, Zachary Scott, Rob Steele, Luke Savage, Duncan Mills, Tuck Johnson, Steve Cassidy, Rick Allen, Doug Jeffries, Blake Harper, Jason Branch, Rubaire, A. Damron, Steve Shannon*

Running Time: *130 minutes*

The pyramids of Egypt hold many secrets and hidden treasures but the fabulous jewels of King Tut's tomb cannot compare to the family jewels in The Pharaoh's Curse. Ancient history shows that the pharaohs of Egypt indulged their sexual desires but the curse of the pharaoh is a mythological story with any doubt. When the pharaoh was betrayed everyone paid—sometimes for generations.

Jon Eric portrays a pharaoh whose servants have to search for innocent peasants to satisfy his sexual desires in a hidden chamber beneath his palace. Naturally, his servants were attractive, well-endowed hunters who never returned without a young, studly, innocent victim. The pharaoh has a ceremonial sex-suit for use on just these momentous occasions. A special ermine scent is used to sexually arouse his victims and prepare them for an orgy of sensual pleasures. Rick Allen is a favourite servant, and it's easy to see why as he easily gives himself a blow job while everyone looks on in admiration... or jealousy.

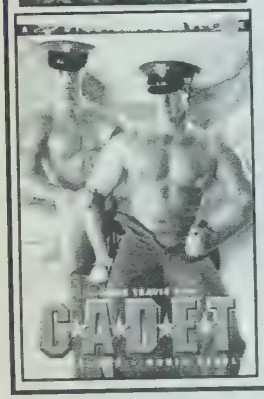
The good times come to an end but a peasant, Blake Harper, decides the sex-suit is too good to leave behind and decides that stealing it could lead to greater sexual exploits then he could have imagined. The furious pharaoh places a curse on the sex-suit and all who touch it, a hex that causs them to be possessed with sexual obsession.

The rest of the movie follows the bewitched cloth from Egypt to ancient Rome, to an archeological dig and, finally, to the present day. On this journey through history, each studly owner is obsessed and the sexual encounters are enough to make the pharaoh turn hard inside his pyramid tomb. Take this journey through history and enjoy these sexual orgies that only an ancient Egyptian curse could make possible. *Size Queen Of The Nile* could possibly be the royal title of this pharaoh.

Review sponsored by Express Video, #202 11745 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, (780) 482-7480. Email: exec.express@v-wave.com

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★	SET: ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★	STORY: ★★★★
COSTUMES: ★★★★★	ACTION: ★★★★★



CADET

From: *Studio 2000*

Featuring: *Mark Slade, Chris Steele, Nick Savage, Brendan Keith, Jon Eric, John Ross, Ethan Marc, Derek Michaels, Marcus Caine, Matt West.*

Running Time: *90 minutes.*

What goes on at a military academy when a group of masculine cadets are confined to base? In this instance, a lot. Less than a week earlier, Senior Cadet Thomas Gerard was discovered in his dormitory under suspicious circumstances. The investigation which followed revealed certain physical evidence, including the discovery of semen in Cadet Thomas' rectum which had been deeply and forcibly penetrated by a person or persons unknown. General Wainwright, the Academy's commander, experienced deep distress and ordered an Honour Board review of the circumstances. The review was to take place behind closed doors—no press allowed—but statements would be issued at appropriate times. Every cadet was fearful of the outcome and what dark secrets may be revealed as a result of this inquiry.

Eight of Thomas' fellow cadets come together at a friend's house to watch the television coverage as the news story breaks to the general public. Each one of them is concerned, with good reason, as to which of their own sexual exploits might be exposed by witnesses at the tribunal. In private, away from the Academy, they enjoy each others' company without leaving anything to the imagination about their guilt and what might come of this investigation.

These studly men, all in grey military pants, braces and white t-shirts, soon reveal their individualism when uniforms are abandoned and raw flesh is the order of the day. As they divide up into groups their secrets are exposed, along with their fears about discovery. The "Don't Ask Don't Tell" is not policy any longer as they share their innermost desires and try to help each other survive the next few days. These hunks prove that "Show And Tell" is definitely the best policy and keeping a big secret is not always as much pleasure as sharing it.

Review sponsored by Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, L100 822 11th Avenue SW, Calgary, 266-5685

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★	SET: ★★★★
BODIES: ★★★★★	STORY: ★★★★
ACTION SCENES: ★★★★	

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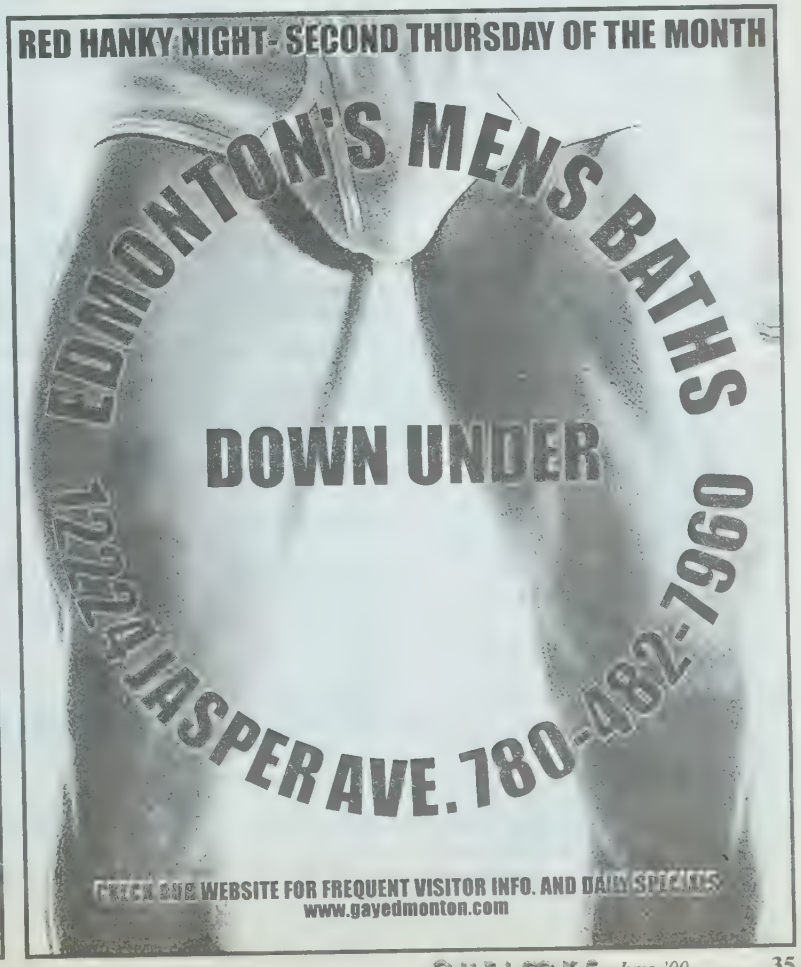

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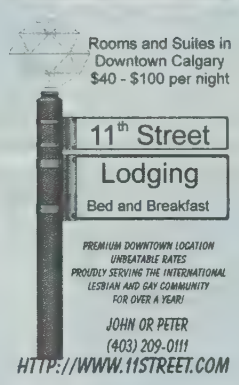
204 accommodations



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1-2-1 Quest: Brazilian (NO clichet-person!), hairy, white (=non-mixed), masculine male, 39-180-90. ND/NS, unaffected, educated, traveled, very conservative, bit square-minded, romantic, shy, sensitive, bit late-comer into gayhood, seeks similar, male partner, understanding, supportive (blond/corpulent/30-45=plus, not must) for: serious, strictly monogamic, stable, lifelong, cuddlish, affectionate, relationship & life together (there) In English to: Marcelo, P.O. Box 3670, 20001-970 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Cute slim dark guy, 22 yrs, need a sincere companion to settle down. No one night stand please. I can travel. Quame Taylor, Box DC110, Dansoman Accra, Ghana W/A

I am a 32-year-old Russian who wishes to find new friends in Canada. My name is Andrew, I am a professional from Siberia now residing in Moscow. I'm 178 cm tall, 68 kilo, light blond hair, blue eyes. If somebody wants to write me by e-mail: Hogan.Malony@mail.USA.com and the ordinary address is Andrew, P.O. Box 7678, Krasnoyarsk, 660092 Russia.

Young, honest, handsome gay 19/178/65, would like to break solitude with your help. I need strong and sincere friendship. Let's plan our future together. I am waiting for your letters in English to. Alexandr Scherbec, P.O. Box 852, Kharkov-2, 310002, Ukraine

Handsome, honest gay professional model, 25/183/72 would like to find good friends for friendship, maybe more. I hope you will break my solitude. Please write me in English to: Taitov Radion, Do Vostrebovania, Kharkhov-118, 310118, Ukraine

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CLASSIFIEDS

402 friends

GWM, 30's, 145 lbs, blondish brown hair, hazel green eyes, very well tanned, seeks GWM 25-35 for a long term relationship who is outgoing, has a good sense of humour, and willing to take a chance. You are spontaneous. My idea of a perfect date is a warm fire, frosty night and a fine bottle of wine. Reply #3004

Cute N/S clean-cut spontaneous GM, 30, 5'10", 165, dark hair/eyes, healthy, independent, seeks slim, mature, sensitive, honest, passionately fun male 25-40 for friendship/dating first. You love yourself and your life, have outside interests/friends, not committed to bar scene, and could do things together while maintaining individuality. I'm fun-loving and romantic by nature, enjoy drives, walks, intimate dinners, movies and conversation over a good glass of wine with that special guy. Reply #3003

Single, sensitive and sincere gay guy, 37, 6'2", trim, healthy, N/S, university educated, professional, career man, seeking similar happy homo, 30-45, who's honest, mature, down-to-earth, with an optimistic outlook on life, enjoys cycling, music, movies, romantic evenings, and genuinely desires pursuing friendship/dating with one special man. Edmonton. Reply #3001.

GWM, horseman/cattleman, loves nature. Sincere, considerate, compassionate. Looking to meet someone similar values, interested sharing horsemanship adventures together, relationship oriented. 6'2", 180, 49, professional. Reply #3002.

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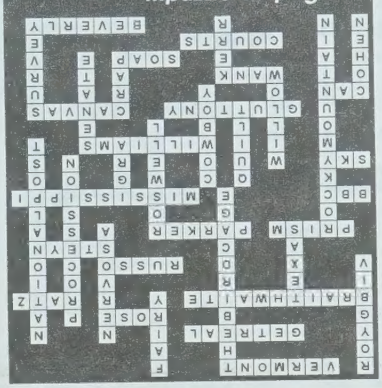
Queerword Answers
...puzzle on page 11



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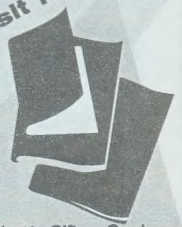

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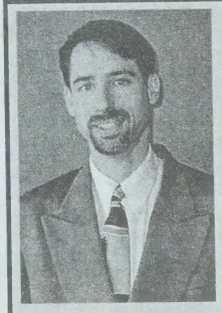

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just friends

Box 2202: I'm a single, white male looking for a friendship, very new to this city, looking to meet some people to go out to bars and maybe go from there.

Box 2379: I'm new to Calgary, only been here a short while, 20, looking to hook up with some people to show me around, all the exciting sites in Calgary.

long term relationships

Box 2196: I'm 30, masculine guy, 6'1", 185lb, good-looking, good shape, nice body, sandy blond hair, blue-green eyes. I like a variety of activities, varied sports, outdoor activities, biking, rollerblading, hockey, stuff like that. I like movies, I like just basically going out having a good time, shooting a game of pool, going for a beer, stuff like that. I have a good head on my shoulders, I know where I'm going, I know how to get there, I know what I want, and so do you. You are 26-35, preferably tall, and sane, sane's a good thing. I'm sick of the games, sick of the bar scene, just looking for a nice, genuine, down-to-earth guy to spend some time with, get to know, and possibly start something good.

Box 2201: I'm Cody, blue eyes, dirty blond hair but it's clean, 5'9".

Box 2244: This is Mike, 20 years old, 6', 150lb, dark brown hair, hazel-green eyes, and I wear glasses. Looking to meet guys for friendship that'll hopefully lead to something a little more longterm. Guys that are about 25-40, tall, dark hair, muscular, body hair and facial hair a plus. I have a variety of interests like music, going for coffee, movies, pretty casual things.

Box 2263: Good-looking, masculine guy, very straight acting, looking to meet up with a guy for an ongoing relationship and partnership. Looking to develop a friendship and go from there. Not looking for anything that's too wild or crazy, just a real average, normal guy. Looking for a caring and passionate guy.

Box 2304: I'm 25 years old, and I'm athletic, very down-to-earth guy looking for the same thing. You know, relaxed, kick off shoes, whatever. Looking for a person 19-29, very mature, has the same things in common.

Box 2362: I'm 5'5", 140lb, 40 years old, am an honest, loving, caring person, open to meeting the right person. Looking for somebody that's honest, sincere and hoping to meet ya.

Box 2364: Thought I'd give this line a try and see what happens. Winter's over and I'm looking so forward to having a fun spring and summer. Looking for a guy, mid to late 20s, who's interested in being friends developing to more. Looking for a mature, committed, monogamous relationship with a guy who knows what he wants and is goal-oriented. You have to be very comfortable with yourself. I'm not fussy on your occupation as long as you have a job, and are financially and emotionally independent. I'm hoping that you do have some interests and are willing to share yours with mine. I like to be with a guy who enjoys having an active, or on the other hand, enjoys having a relaxing one, as well. As much as the bars can be fun, it's not the place where I intend to have a relationship. I just leave it there as many other things that we can do for entertainment. I'm 28, 5'7", 155lb, with brown hair, brown eyes, and not bad look at.

Box 2393: Hoping to meet other guys with some similar interests. Just recently moved here to Calgary, not into the scene at all. Just a regular guy, I'm 33, name is Steve, 6'3", brown hair, blue eyes, goatee, very straight looking, masculine. I enjoy the outdoors, hiking, mountain biking, downhill skiing, camping and stuff. I like movies and just hanging out, I guess. Career oriented and looking to meet other guys with similar interests who's 25-35, that's cool.

Box 2434: I'm 32 years old, 6', 170lb, fit, moderately hairy body, clean-shaven, cleancut. Looking to see who's around, looking for friends or possible dating. Physically I tend to like trim, smooth guys. Sexually, I'm a top. I like guys who can show affection, and still be masculine, and just down-to-earth, decent people.

Box 2533: Good-looking, smooth, 5'10", 155lb, short brown hair, blue-green eyes, very cleancut, clean-shaven, boy-next-door. I'm looking for other guys under 35 to get together with, and see what happens from there. Looking for a longterm relationship with a guy who's got his head screwed on the right way, and is honest and caring about his partner.

casual encounters

Box 2204: I'm 6'1", 190lb, short hair, muscles, fit. Looking for casual man for casual times.

Box 2247: I have a fantasy I'd like somebody to fulfill. I'm 32 years old, good-looking, but my fantasy is I'd like to pick up with a younger, hot guy, good shape that has a nice big thick cock. You've got a nice big low hanging shaved sack, who wants me to come over, just spread your legs, and just let me go down to your cock, suck your balls, suck your shaft, suck your cock, take your load, and be on my way. I'd give you my work number if we match, and you call me at work and say "Hey, come over, suck my cock tonight." I'd pop by on my way home from work and take care of your cock for ya. I would just love that. Can anybody out there help me with my fantasy?

Box 2290: I'm new to this system, and I'm just looking for another bi male, 25-30 for casual encounters, and maybe an ongoing thing.

Box 2325: I'm Ken, 30 years old, fairly new to the system. Looking for a guy that wants some experience with me.

Box 2327: I'm a 34 year old guy, 5'10", 170lb, moderately good shape, moderately hairy, totally horny. 6" cut, nice cock, nice big nuts, I like to shave them sometimes. I like to get a big handful of lube and a vibrator. I like to jerk off and do poppers. You're in the downtown core, like the same thing, like to have a guy come over, sit there with you, get all lubed up, have a good time. Totally horny, totally versatile, really like to give head and eat ass. I'd really like to get my ass licked, totally get into a good 69, just have a great time.

Box 2337: I'm 5'7", 135lb, short brown hair, brown eyes, smooth body, slim, very horny. Looking to hook up with a guy who wants to do me over, and shove his big dick up my ass.

Box 2358: Wanted: hot drywaller to fill unexpected hole found in my bathroom. While he is doing that I will suck his penis off. And after that, I'd love him to fill my own hole.

Box 2401: I'm a big, Black guy, I'm really interested in getting together with a white couple. If you're interested, we can talk about Oreo cookies.

Box 2408: I'm 5'10", 165lb, 24 years old, dark hair, brown eyes, slim, smooth, slightly hairy around the testicular area. Enjoy being in the city, checking out the sights, being with somebody that's down-to-earth, good conversation, staring deeply into each other's eyes, kissing, hugging, watersports, massages, oils. I've also got a tendency of a bad side, of gay porn, gay mags.

Box 2418: I'm Scott, 24 years old, 5'5", stocky sexy body. I'm inexperienced but I know what I want, and that's to meet a hot guy around my age to break me in...hmm.

Box 2422: Really cute, 26, 5'11", 135lb, brown hair, blue eyes. Always horny and just looking for other guys, 18-30, who want to get together, have sex, have a good time, like repeatedly and often.

Box 2431: I'm Darren, 22 years old, just looking for some guys my own age to talk to, and maybe get off on the phone with, and hook up with. I'm 5'9", 160lb, blond hair, blue eyes, wicked body.

Box 2489: Here's the story: I'm a good-looking, sexy guy and I'm looking for other attractive, sexy, well-hung men to get together for a play party. I'm from the West Coast and they happen all the time out there, they're actually a lot of fun.

Box 2544: I'm 22, never been with another guy before. I've been practicing with vibrators, I really want to try it. I'm into anything, sucking, fucking.

Box 2548: Very attractive, masculine, bi male, 5'11", 175lb, smooth, fit, muscular body, work out. Looking for open-minded couples and select singles. You won't be disappointed.

leather & SM

Box 2315: I'm 42 year old, married, bi male, 6'3", 230lb, good shape, 6-1/2" cut and shaved. I seek a dominant male to serve, experienced in nipple, genital and anal domination. Very submissive.

Box 2382: I'm from out of town, 5'11", 165lb, in very good shape. Travel to Calgary often, and would like to party with well-built, masculine guys. Especially guys that like to wrestle, be aggressive, and like grabbing you by the back of the head, and pounding you deep down into you. I'm also in Cranbrooke area.

Box 2465: I'm Doug, 6'2", 190lb, muscular, good shape, 9" cock. Very curious about playing out fantasies of other guys, and sharing some, and making some happen. My age is 40 years old, yeah, I guess that's it.

Box 2486: White, bisexual male, slave, early 30s looking to get together with some hot, dom couples for some hot, good times.

Box 2496: I'm a bisexual, married, young male, who enjoys wearing women's lingerie, wearing makeup. I want to bring my sexual experiences to the next level. I would like to get into leather and SM. I would like to be a master, and I would like to force feminize certain men. I'm looking for an older gentleman who has access to leather, stockings, spiked high heels, makeup and any attire that I wish to wear. I'm also looking for someone who's into role-playing, cause I would love to role-play with someone. I love having my toes sucked and licked, and I love having my asshole licked, my cock sucked. I would definitely love to become a master.

phone buddies

Box 2519: I'm 5'5", 170lb, black hair, brown eyes, hairy chest, big muscles, very well-endowed, overly endowed. I'd like to meet all kinds of hot guys, we can figure out what to do from there.

transgender

Box 2248: I'm 27, long blond hair, blue eyes, 5'9", 175lb. I love big toys, poppers, x-rated movies, crossdressers, TVs. I'm looking for other people, transgendered to possibly get together with.

Box 2354: I'm Mike, 150lb, 5'11", dark hair, dark brown eyes, slim. You're into this and transgendered. I would love to get together with a transsexual.

Box 2410: I am in my 40s, attractive, fit, muscular, athletic build. I am looking for transvestites or transsexuals only. I am on the submissive side. If you love receiving oral sex, I'm the man for you, and I don't mind receiving it also. I love a woman dressed in erotic clothing, boots. I prefer taller and slim, but don't let that stop you, I'd love to hear from all of you.

Box 2555: I am a single, white male, 6'2", 160lb, well-endowed I've been told. Looking for a TS or TV, very passable for ongoing, discreet encounters. Singles and/or couples are more than welcome to apply. I am average looking, and quite sincere about this. Preferably I would like to have them on the slim side, very feminine, very passable.

Box 2561: This is Robbie, young white male, 5'10", 165lb, short blond hair, and bright green eyes.

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bisexuals

Box 2191: I'm a very open-minded, bi guy, west of town. Looking to meet other bi guys on a very casual ongoing basis. I'm also very interested in meeting a couple where both are bi. I'm very open-minded and like to explore.

Box 2223: I'm 39 years old, attached, physically fit, 5'8", 165lb, dirty blond hair. Pretty new at this, looking to expand my experience.

Box 2269: Kevin, 40 year old, bi male, 6', 170lb, dark blond hair, greyish-green eyes, moustache. Seeking a nice, slim, smooth bodied guy, gay or bi. Race isn't important, do have a preference towards Black and Asian guys though. Looking for someone for encounters, and the possibility of a relationship. I love oral, giving and receiving, mutual masturbation, videos, I love lots of body contact and massages, whatnot. Looking pretty much for the same, smooth body is a big turn-on for me, someone with very little or no body hair would a definite plus, and a reasonably slim body as well.

Box 2270: 42 year old, attached bi male. Looking for someone to get together with for some fun, something safe, clean, discreet. I'm looking for something disease and drug free. I, myself, I'm 6'1", 210lb, and am looking for someone who might be in the same boat, and maybe get together once in a while. I'm not a weirdo or psycho, and do not want the same.

Box 2274: I'm in my 40s, bisexual male looking for bisexual, married men, bi-curious married men, who enjoy clean, discreet, oral fun. I can massage with my hands, my lips, my tongue, my mouth at my own residence. Must be 34-50, must be clean and discreet.

Box 2441: Good-looking male, 5'11", 170lb, new and inexperienced but very eager, and very willing to try something new. Looking for someone more experienced, who's maybe got a place of their own, who can entertain. Only serious replies please, discretion assured.

Box 2517: I'm Mike, I live and work in Medicine Hat, 5'6", 195lb, short stocky build, hairy chest, balding on top, 6" cut. I'm a single parent of 2 teenagers, I've been that way for the last 8 years, and I'm a bisexual. I'd like to get together with a guy or guys, hopefully on a regular basis, and explore one another. I do have a couple of experiences and I enjoyed them very much, and I'd like to get back into that, as I haven't done anything in about 7 years now.

Box 2528: I'm a 42 year old, bi guy, smooth and tanned in Medicine Hat, 5'8", 158lb looking for same or couples who want to play.

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